前言

关于翻译标准,现在一般有两点要求,一是意思准确,二 是文字通顺。

要达到这样的要求,一方面要亲身参加翻译实践,从中不断总结经验,一方面要研究译例,看别人是怎样翻译的,借以学习别人的经验。我在学习过程中积累了一些例子。现在选了一部分,编辑成这本小书,题为《汉英翻译五百例》。

本书共分二十章,从各个角度对比汉英两种语言不同之处,从而看出翻译时应注意的问题。本书之例句主要来源于《毛泽东选集》和我国重要政治文件的英译本,部分例句将不同时期发表的译本作了对比。此外还引用了外国出版的英文书籍、报刊中的材料和例句,以便进一步说明英语的特点。本书着重讨论有关汉译英的问题,也谈到一些英译汉的问题。每章之后,附有简短练习。练习中所用的一百个句子和词组,虽然没有注明出处,但也都是有根据的。

本书部分内容曾在《英语学习》和《外语教学与研究》发表。 在收入本书时,又作了修改和补充。由于水平所限,定有许多 不妥之处,欢迎读者指正。

> 庄**绛**传 一九七九年十月 于北京外国语学院

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1 从两个最普通的词读起

"世界"和"历史"是两个极其普通的词,看起来很好译,英语有对应词 the world 和 history. 在大多数情况下,用这两个词来译,也就行了。但有时问题还不这么简单。请看:

例1. 全世界无产者,联合起来!

Workers of all countries, unite!

这是革命导师马克思和恩格斯在《共产党宣言》的末尾发出的战斗号召,原文是德文。句中的 aller Länder,汉语译作"全世界",英语译作 all countries.。可见不一定用 the world。

"世界"一词常常出现在"全世界"和"世界上"两个词组之中。

一般说来, "全世界"是个地理概念,指地球上所有地方,相当于 the whole world. 但汉语和英语用法不同。汉语可以先提某个国家,同时还说全世界,英语则不然。

例2. 我们总要相信,全世界也好,我们中国也好,多数人是好人。(《毛泽东选集》第五卷,第440页,简称 Y,440。下同)

We must believe that in China, as everywhere else in the world, the majority of the people are good. (V, 457)

"全世界"译作 everywhere else in the world.有时也看见这样的例子:"中国人民……全世界人民……"译作 The Chinese people... the people in the rest of the world... "全世界"为什么不译作 the whole world 呢?中国是世界的一部分,说了中国,再说 the whole world,英语在逻辑上觉得不妥。当然,这

也不是绝对的。有时也见到 China and the whole world 这种说法。

"世界上"则往往不是一个地理概念,而是概括地讲世界上的人和事,在句子里起加强语气的作用。

例3. 我们相信,只要依靠人民,世界上就没有攻不破的"法宝"。(V, 153)

We believe that so long as we rely on the people there is no invincible "magic weapon" in this world. (V, 168)

例4. 世界上就是这样一个辩证法: 又动又不动。(V, 813)

All things are at once in motion and not in motion — such is the dialectics of our world. (V, 332)

例5. 我看总是要扯皮的,不要设想共产党之间就没有皮扯。世界上那有不扯皮的? (V, 344)

In my view, wrangling is inevitable. Let no one imagine that there is no wrangling between Communist Parties. How can there be no wrangling in this world of ours? (V, 364)

例6. 世上有这样高明的逻辑吗?(IV, 1405)

Can there be such superior logic anywhere in the world? (IV, 457)

例7. 谢基本上完成,是谨慎的讲法,世界上的事情总是谨慎一点好。(Y,87)

To say it is basically accomplished is a prudent way of speaking; it is always better to be prudent in everything we do. (V, 99)

通过 this world, our world, this world of ours, 译文就 脱离开平面的地理概念,使人想到我们所处的这个现实的世界,

而产生一种立体感,语气也得到了加强。最后一个例子更甩掉了 world一词。虽然说是"世界上的事情",但指的是我们自己。 everything we do 正好表达了这个意思。

例8. 实际上,世界上只有具体的自由, 具体的民主, 没有抽象的自由, 抽象的民主。(V, 367)

As a matter of fact, freedom and democracy exist not in the abstract, but only in the concrete. (V, 388)

例9. 你要母鸡多生蛋,又不给它米吃,又要马儿跑得好, 又要马儿不吃草。世界上那有这样的道理! (V, 274)

You want the hen to lay more eggs and yet you don't feed it, you want the horse to run fast and yet you don't let it graze. What kind of logic is that! (V, 291)

在这两个例子里,"世界上"都没有译。 例8是个一般性论断,泛指任何地方。 例9这样说,也不是真地要在世界上找一找有没有这样的道理。都是一种加强语气的说法。没有译"世界上",语气更强些。

翻译"历史"一词,会遇到些什么问题呢?

从一些例子来看,"历史"一词有两个意思。一是指过去的事情,一是指人类社会的发展过程,既包括过去,也包括现在和将来。"社会主义历史阶段"便是一例。 History 一词也有这些不同的含义。但两种语言的用法还是有所不同。

我们一看到"历史上(的)",往往先想到 in history.其实,汉语"历史上"或"历史上的"看起来似指上面第一个意思,实际上有时是指第二个意思。而英语 in history 一般是指过去的人或事。二者并不等同。

例10. 民主自由都是相对的,不是绝对的,都是在历史上发生和发展的。(V,368)

Both democracy and freedom are relative, not absolute, and they come into being and develop in specific historical conditions. (V, 389)

"在历史上"理解为"在一定的历史条件下"。

例11. 那些代表反动阶级、反动势力的"英雄好汉"们,尽管张牙舞爪,不可一世,实际上不过是貌似强大的纸老虎,是历史上匆匆来去的过客,不要多长时间,他们就会被历史的巨浪所淹没。(《赫鲁晓夫是怎样下台的》)

However rampant and overbearing they may be, "heroes" representing reactionary classes and reactionary forces are actually paper tigers, powerful only in appearance; they are only fleeting transients soon to be overwhelmed by the surging waves of history. (Why Khrushchov Fell, p.10)

"历史上匆匆来去的过客"只译作 fleeting transients, "历史上"没有译。但下一行有 history 一词,这样也就把意思衬托出来了。

例12. 历史上的战争分为两类,一类是正义的,一类是非正义的。(1,443)

History shows that wars are divided into two kinds, just and unjust. (II, 150)

这句话,一九五四年发表的译文是 Wars in history can be divided into two kinds, just and unjust.这就可能被曲解为不包括现代的战争了。

以上几个例子,译文大都没有离开 history 一词。能不能用别的词呢?

例13. 我们搞革命和建设,总难免要犯一些错误,这是历史经验证明了的。《再论无产阶级专政的历史经验》那篇文章,

就是个大难免论。(Y,350)

In our revolution and construction some mistakes are unavoidable in any case, as past experience has proved. The article "More on the Historical Experience of the Dictatorship of the Proletariat" deals precisely with a major case of unavoidability. (V, 370)

这里为什么"历史经验"一处译作 past experience, 一处译作 historical experience 呢? 我的理解是,第二句是文章的题目,非常正式,谈的问题也比较大。而第一句语气比较灵活,所以用小字。

例14. 从他注意研究中国历史情况和当前社会情况方面……知道他是很虚心的。(V, 312)

From the way he applied himself to the study both of China's past and present . . . I knew he was a man with a receptive mind. (V, 331)

在英语里把历史和现状相提并论的时候, 往往是说 past and present. 说到一个国家的 past and present, 当然是指它的社会状况, 所以"社会"一词也就可以不译了。

例15. 他们想问题做事情的方法, 他们的历史习惯, 跟我们不同。(V, 344)

The way they think, the way they do things and their traditional habits are different from ours. (V, 364)

这里所谓"历史习惯"大概是指在历史上形成的沿袭已久 的习惯。

例16. 历史上的反动统治者,主要是汉族的反动统治者, 曾经在我们各民族中间制造种种隔阂,欺负少数民族。 (V, 278) All through the ages, the reactionary rulers, chiefly from the Han nationality, sowed feelings of estrangement among our various nationalities and bullied the minority peoples. (V, 295)

这里把定语译成状语,译为 all through the ages. 试再比较下面四个例子:

例17. 为了证明农业合作化的可能性和我党中央对于农业合作化的方针的正确性,我们现在就来该一谈我国农业合作化运动的历史,也许不是无益的。(V,170)

In order to show the feasibility of agricultural co-operation and the soundness of the Party Central Committee's policy on this matter, it is perhaps not without some value for us to review the *history* of the agricultural co-operative movement in our country. (V, 186)

例18, 现在,全国大多数的合作社还只有一年多的历史, 我们就要求它们那么好,这是不合理的。(V, 380)

As most of our co-operatives are only a little over a year old, it would be unreasonable to ask too much of them. (V, 400)

例19. 某些同志看了过去几年合作化发展的历史还是不相信,他们还要看一看一九五五年这一年的发展情况怎么样。 (V, 169)

Certain comrades remain unconvinced despite the *record* of the growth of co-operation in the last few years and want to wait and see how things shape up in 1955. (V, 185)

例20. 我党领导农民更广泛地组织农业生产互助组,并且 在互助组的基础上开始成批地组织农业生产合作社,是在中华 人民共和国成立以后。到现在,又已经有了差不多六年的历史 了。(V, 170)

It was after the founding of the People's Republic of China that our Party led the peasants in setting up agricultural producers' mutual-aid teams more extensively and in initiating the formation of large numbers of agricultural producers' co-operatives on the basis of these teams. By now nearly six years more have been spent on this work. (V, 186)

这四个例子都是关于农业合作化运动的,但在翻译"历史"一词时,处理办法各不相同。例17原文接下去要谈几十年的历史,所以译文用了 history 一词。例18只有一年多的时间,若用 history 一词就显得太大,不合乎分寸了。例19和例20大概也是由于同样的原因,分别译为 record 和 six years more have been spent on this work.

例21. 不但要看干部的一时一事,而且要看干部的全部历史和全部工作,这是认识干部的主要方法。(I , 492-493)

We must not confine our judgement to a short period or a single incident in a cadre's life, but should consider his life and work as a whole. This is the principal method of judging cadres. (II, 202)

这个例子讲的是个人,自然是 life 和 work 连在一起较顺了。

从上面的例子看,同一个词在这里可以这样译,在那里可以那样译,有时甚至可以不译。那么,在选词方面究竟要注意 些什么呢?请看第二章。

练 习 1

怎样翻译下列句子中加了着重号的词语?

- 1.他们努力学习和研究当代的和历史上的各种东西,并且 教人们也这么做。
 - 2.在历史上,这个国家同我们打过很多仗。
- 3.本地人和客籍人之间存在着很大的界限,历史上的仇怨 非常深,有时发生很激烈的斗争。
 - 4.世界上是有许多不公道的事情。

2 怎样选词

有些词看起来很简单,翻译时一下子就会想到常用的对应词。但有时最常用的对应词却不能准确地表达原作的意思,这是因为一个词的具体含义往往要结合上下文才能确定,在翻译的时候也只有结合上下文来考虑怎样处理这个词,才能译得准确。那么,在处理一个词的时候,要注意哪些方面呢?

一、吃透原文。

例1. 各级干部要认真学习马列著作和毛主席著作,刻苦钻研业务,提高领导水平。(五届人大一次会议文件)

Cadres at all levels should apply themselves to the study of works by Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin and by Chairman Mao, gain the professional proficiency required by their jobs, and improve their art of leadership.

我们一看到"水平",往往首先想到 level. 在大多数情况下,译作 level 是可以的。如"科学文化水平",译作 scientific and cultural level. 但这里"领导水平"指的是领导能力、领导艺术,所以译作 art of leadership.

例2. 要奋发图强,把我军的军政素质提高到一个新的水平, ……(同上)

We must work hard to raise to a new height the military and political quality of our army,

这里"水平"指"高度",故译作 height,和动词搭配也比较顺。

例3. 还要努力读一点历史和小说。(《人民日报》)

We should also find time to read some history books and novels.

这里 "努力"一词理解为 "挤出时间" 是对的。 如译为 make an effort, 则会使人误解为我们文化水平低, 读历史和小说很费力。

从这几个例子看,首先要透彻理解原文的含义。汉译英时,理解原文一般不构成很大的问题。英译汉时,则往往由于理解不透而造成误译。

1. I should like to ask representatives who ... to add their names to the list of speakers, which I propose to close at 1. p.m. tomorrow.

请……的代表在发言人名单上登记。我准备在明天下午一点截止登记。

M.5 We have an open mind and we shall listen to and consider carefully any *argument* that may be advanced in the council.

我们没有偏见,我们将仔细地听取并考虑可能在安理会上 提出的任何论点。

可见 propose 在这里不是"提议", argument 后面跟着 advance (提出), 意思就不是"争论", 而是"论点"。 再如 I submit that ... 意思是"我认为……", instrument 的意思是"文件"。这些意思并不怪,都是可以在词典中查到的。只要多查词书,就可以抓住真正的意思,而避免误译。

二、免生歧义。

例6. 延安虽然还没有战争,但军队天天在前方打仗,后方也唤工作忙,文章太长了,有谁来看呢?(《毛泽东选集》第

三卷, 第791页, 简称 II, 791。下同)

Although there is as yet no fighting here in Yenan, our troops at the front are daily engaged in battle, and the people in the rear *are busy at work*. If articles are too long, who will read them? (III, 56-57)

例7. 一九七八年,我国各族人民在中国共产党的领导下,认真贯彻执行党的十一大和五届人大一次会议提出的新时期的总任务,……(五届人大二次会议文件)

In 1978, the people of all our nationalities under the leadership of the Communist Party of China worked conscientiously to carry out the general task set for the new period by the Eleventh National Congress of the Party and the First Session of the Fifth National People's Congress,

这两个例子,原文都不难理解。但是怎样使译文准确地表达原文的意思却并不容易。例6的 "后方也唤工作忙"起初发表的译文是 people in the rear are all saying that they have lots of work to do. (1956年版) 这个译文给人的印象是他们并不真忙,只是叫忙,这显然就不是作者的本意了。例7的 "认真贯彻执行"原来译为 conscientiously carried out,字面上很精确,但给人的印象却是在一九七八年一年之内就完成了新时期的总任务。最后改为 worked conscientiously to carry out,才真正确切地表达了原意。

例8. 抄到敌人前面

outstrip the enemy by taking a shortcut (《汉英词典》第78页。)

例9. 这人肚子里藏不住话。

This chap can't keep anything to himself. (《汉英词典》

第65页。)

起初,例8译作 steal a march on the enemy. 但是 steal a march on someone 意思是(偷偷地)抢在某人之前,这可以指任何事情,不一定指行军。例9起初译作 This chap wears his heart on his sleeve. Wear one's heart on one's sleeve 的意思是"感情外露",但感情外露的人不一定什么都说。

三、注意褒贬。

例10. 我们应当从这里得出一条经验,就是不要被假象所 迷惑。(V, 150)

We should draw a lesson here: Don't be misled by false appearances. (V, 165)

这里的"经验"不是成功的经验,而是从错误或失败中得出的经验,所以译文用 a lesson.

例11. 他们企图把中国抛回到一九二七年至一九三七年的 国内战争的大海里去。(Ⅰ,952)

It is planning to plunge China once again into the maelstrom of civil war, as in 1927-37. (III, 225)

"大海"在这里有贬义,故译作 maelstrom.

例12. 事实上,贫农领袖中,从前虽有些确是有缺点的,但是现在多数都变好了。……据衡山的调查,贫农领袖百人中八十五人都变得很好,很能干,很努力。(I, 21-22)

Though a few of the poor peasant leaders undoubtedly did have shortcomings, most of them have *changed* by now.... According to the Hengshan survey, 85 per cent of the poor peasant leaders have *made great progress* and have proved themselves capable and hardworking. (I, 33-34)

此处"变好了"、"变得很好"都是褒义,译文用 changed

和 made great progress 也很恰当。但这段话,一九五四年发表的译文译作…… most of them have reformed themselves by now... 85 per cent of the poor peasant leaders have now turned out to be quite reformed, capable and energetic. 对有缺点的贫农领袖用 reform 一词,似不妥。

例13. ……中国人民要求停止内战一致抗日的呼声越发高涨。(II, 937)

... the *voice* of the Chinese people grew increasingly powerful in its demand for an end to civil war and for united resistance to Japan. (III, 212)

这句话,过去曾经有过一个译文译作 The Chinese people clamoured even more loudly Clamour —词带有贬义,而这里说的是中国人民的正义呼声,所以是不合适的。

例14. 他们讲唯心论, 我们讲唯物论。(V, 351)

They preach idealism whereas we advocate materialism. (V, 371)

同是一个"讲"字,译文在一处用 preach,在另一处用 advocate,一贬一褒,不但用词多样化,而且反映了对这两种对立的世界观的不同态度。

四、掌握分寸。

例15. 每个师都有三个月粮食,都有仓库,还有礼堂,生活很好。(V,67)

Each division has grain reserves for three months, its own storage area and a meeting hall to boot, and our men are making a go of life in the tunnels. (V, 79)

例16. 孙中山先生是个好人, …… (·Y, 68)

Dr. Sun Yat-sen was a man of integrity . . . (V, 80)

这两个例子都有一个"好"字。例15所谓"生活很好", 是和以前给养不能保证的情况相对而言,译文不能说得过分。 例16如译作 a good man,则与这位伟大的革命先行者的身份不 相称。这两个例子的译文是合乎分寸的。

例17. 比如民国元年的《中华民国临时约法》,在那个时期是一个比较好的东西,当然,是不完全的,有缺点的,是资产阶级性的,但它带有革命性、民主性。(V,127)

Thus the Provisional Constitution of the Republic of China in 1912 was a fairly good one for its time. Of course it had its imperfections and faults and was bourgeois in nature, but there was something revolutionary and democratic about it. (V, 142)

例18. 后来掌握了马克思主义, 才用阶级观点看农村。 (V, 306)

In was only after they had some grasp of Marxism that they began to adopt the class viewpoint in looking at the countryside. (V, 325)

例17所说的〈约法〉是资产阶级性的,只是带有革命性,因此不能直接译为 revolutionary. 例18, 从不懂得用阶级观点看农村,到开始用阶级观点看农村,说明只是初步地掌握了马克思主义,因此不能译为 grasped 或 mastered.

例19. 但是我们还没有外接。就是假定将来有了外援,生活资料也只能由我们自己来供给,这是一点主观主义也来不得的。(夏,1005—1006)

But we have so far received no outside aid. Even if we get it in the future, we shall still have to provide our own means of livelihood; on that score there must be no illusions

whatsoever. (III, 276)

The saying "Haste does not bring success" does not mean that we should not make haste, but that we should not be *impetuous*; *impetuosity* leads only to failure. (III, 186-187)

这两个例子说的是如何对待具体事物,而不是指政治路线或思想作风,所以不必用 subjectivism 和 pustchism.

五、注意搭配。

哪个词和哪个词可以连用,哪个词和哪个词不可以连用, 英语和汉语也是不同的。关于这个问题,请看第三章。

练 习 2

怎样翻译下列句子中加了着重号的词语?

- 1.四个现代化是一项崭新的事业。
- 2.我们许多同志缺乏分析的头脑,对于复杂事物,不愿作 反复深入的分析研究,而爱作绝对肯定或绝对否定的简单结 论。
 - 3.农民——这是现阶段中国文化运动的主要对象。
 - 4.他们举起他们那粗黑的手,加在绅士们头上了。
 - 5.我们现在的困难,有的已经渡过,有的快要渡过。

3 怎样搭配

任何一种语言,在长期使用的过程中,都形成了一些固定的词组或常见的搭配。这些比较固定的说法,有时可以逐字译成另一种语言,有时则不行,勉强译出,不是意思不准确,就是译文不流畅。请看下面几种不同的情况:

一、定语和中心词的搭配

例1. 广大农民(《毛泽东选集》第五卷,第180页,简称 V,180。下同)

the peasant masses (V, 195)

英语可以讲 the broad masses, 但不能讲 the broad peasants.

例2. 路线问题(V,90)

questions concerning the Party line (V, 103)

这是我国政治生活中常用的一个词组,但在英语中没有如此简洁的对应词。既不能说 line question, 说 questions concerning the line 也还是不清楚。只有 questions concerning the Party line 才能使外国读者确切地了解这个词组的意思,文字也才流畅。

例3. 做一个完全的革命派(V, 25)

Be a True Revolutionary (V, 37)

例4. ……这个才是革命政府的大仁政。(Ⅱ,849)

... and this is where the *true* benevolence of the revolutionary government lies. (III, 114)

这两个例子,译文都用了 true 一词。如果分别译为 complete 和 great,就不顺了。

例5. 但是单有这个条件还不够,还要求别的条件和它配合。首先是人民的条件。(I,191)

But this condition alone is not enough and must be accompanied by others. The first of these is *popular support*. (I, 216)

例6. 没有群众条件……就不要进行任何带群众性的改革工作。(V,23)

Without popular support, ... no reform of a mass character should be attempted. (V, 35)

俩7. 此区地形险要,群众条件好,回旋地区大,安全方面完全有保障。(Ⅵ,1117)

It is an area where we have a favourable mountainous terrain, a good *mass base*, plenty of room for manoeuvre, and full guarantee for security. (IV,131)

这三个例子里, "条件"指的是党或党所领导的军队在某一地区开展工作的条件,指的是群众的支持。所以例 5 的"人民的条件"和例 6 的"群众条件"都译作 popular support. 例 7 的"群众条件"译作 mass base. 都没有用 condition 一词。例 5 曾译作 condition of the people,字面上好象译得很准确,其实并未传达原意,而且可能被理解为"人民的状况"。

二、谓语和主语的搭配

例8. 在增产节约运动中,褐发出相当严重的贪污、浪费、官僚主义的问题, …… (Y, 66)

The subsequent campaign to increase production and practise economy brought to light rather serious cases of cor-

ruption, waste and bureaucracy. (V, 78)

如果主语是人,谓语可以用 expose. 但此处译文以 campaign 为主语,和 brought to light 搭配起来较顺。

例3. 马克思主义告诉我们,民主属于上层建筑,属于政治这个范畴。(V,368)

Marxism teaches us that democracy is part of the superstructure and belongs to the realm of politics. (V, 388)

例10. 这些材料告诉我们, 运动是健康的。 (V, 220)
The material shows that the movement is healthy. (V, 237)

例11. 这件事告诉我们,中国的手工业和资本主义工商业的社会主义改造,也应当争取提早一些时候去完成,才能适应农业发展的需要。(V, 223)

This event makes it clear to us that we must try to accomplish the socialist transformation of China's handicrafts and capitalist industry and commerce ahead of schedule in order to meet the needs of an expanding agriculture. (V, 239)

在这样的上下文里,汉语常用"告诉"一词。英语可用teach, show, prove 等词,一般不用tell,这大概是因为主语都是无生命的东西,动词若用tell 就过分人格化了。

三、谓语和宾语的搭配

例12. ……一切革命的文学家艺术家只有联系群众,表现群众,把自己当作群众的忠实的代言人,他们的工作才有意义。(I,821)

... no revolutionary writer or artist can do any meaningful work unless he is closely linked with the masses, gives expression to their thoughts and feelings and serves them as a loyal spokesman. (III, 84)

英语不能说 give expression to the masses, 所以把"群众"具体化,理解为"群众的思想感情"。

例13. 我们要在这次大会上和大会以后进行宣宣教育,把这方面的工作好好加以改进。(V, 295)

During and after the congress we must conduct propaganda and carry on education so that our work in this respect will be considerably improved. (V, 314)

例14. 在全国平定以后,他们也还会以各种方式从事破坏和捣乱,他们将每日每时企图在中国复辟。(V,5)

After there is peace and order throughout the country, they are sure to engage in sabotage and create disturbances by one means or another and every day and every minute they will try to stage a come-back. (V, 17)

例15. 不过社会主义社会的这些矛盾,同旧社会的生产关系和生产力的矛盾、上层建筑和经济基础的矛盾,具有根本不同的性质和情况罢了。(V, 373)

However, they are fundamentally different in character and have different features from the contradictions between the relations of production and the productive forces and between the superstructure and the economic base in the old societies. (V, 393)

例16. 帝国主义和国民党反动派的长期统治,造成了社会 经济的不正常状态,造成了广大的失业群。(V,17)

Long years of imperialist and reactionary Kuomintang rule *left* our economy in a chaotic state and *caused* widespread unemployment. (V, 28)

这四个例子都是一个动词带两个宾语,但英语不能这样搭配,因此译文只有用不同的动词带不同的宾语。

例17. 厂房、机器设备等搞起来了,……(V, 314)

Factory buildings have been put up and machinery and other equipment installed . . . (V, 333)

汉语一个"搞"字可以和许多名词搭配,英语则需要译成不同的动词。这个例子应该属于谓语和主语的搭配项下,但在需要译成不同的动词这一点上和上面几个例子相近,所以列在这里。

四、状语和谓语的搭配

例18、我们要在几个五年计划的时间内,认真取得处理这个问题的经验。(V,357)

What we are concerned with is to make serious efforts to gain experience in handling this problem within the space of several five-year plans. (V, 377)

例19. 一个社会,无论何时,总有先进和落后两种人们、两种意见矛盾地存在着和斗争着,……(V,157)

In any society and at any time, there are always two kinds of people and views, the advanced and the backward, that exist as opposites struggling with each other, (V, 172)

例20. 我们许多同志从平面看农村,不是立体地看农村,就是说,不懂得用阶级观点看农村。(V,306)

Many of our comrades looked on the countryside as a plane rather than a solid, that is to say, they did not know how to look at the countryside from the class viewpoint. (V, 325)

例21. 大家要好好团结起来, 划清敌我界限。(V, 68) We must close our ranks and clearly distinguish between ourselves and the enemy. (V, 80)

这几个例子,译文都不可能象原文那样以副词为状语,而必须想变通的办法。最后一个例子,"好好"二字原是为了加强语气。译文不加状语,口气最强,不管再加什么词都只会使口气削弱。

上面举了一些汉译英的例子,英译汉也会遇到同样的情况。 英语有些词组如果逐字译成汉语则非常别扭。在国际组织的文件里,常可见到以下例子:

例22. to take immediate and effective measures 立即采取有或措施

汉语"立即"无法与"措施"搭配,但可以用来修饰"采取"。

例23. for the necessary administrative action 以便采取必要的行政措施

也可以考虑译作"以便在行政方面采取必要的行动",但 若译作"行政行动"就不顺了。

69124 to continue to render valuable service to the secretariat

继续为秘书处服务,作出可贵的努力

汉语"服务"一词主要用作动词,因此 service 一词往往很不好译。此处若译作"继续为秘书处提供宝贵的服务",听起来非常不自然。再如 provide consultative sercice 可译作"提供咨询方面的便利"; without health services 可译作"没有医疗条件"。

9125. to undertake a feasibility study

进行研究,看此事是否可行

如译为"进行可能的研究",意思就不对了。译为"进行可能性的研究",则不通顺。现在的译文意思是对的,文字也较流畅,但稍长,无法重复,文章中再次出现时就只好译作"进行此项研究"了。

1926. The inspectors shall be bound by professional secrecy as regards all confidential information they receive.

检查专员的职务要求他们对收到的一切机 密 资 料 保 守 秘 密。

这句话起初译为,检查专员对于他们收到的一切机密资料有保守职业性秘密的义务。"保守职业性秘密"是什么意思,中国读者会感到十分费解。

然而,语言是不断发展的,各种语言也互相影响。一个新的搭配在开始时人们会觉得生硬,甚至刺耳,久而久之也就接受了。

现在报上常见"南部非洲"一词。恐怕"非洲南部"更符合汉语的习惯说法。但英语是 southern Africa, 经常译为"南部非洲",逐渐也就用开了。

"走狗"一词最初译作 running dog 时,许多外国朋友都不赞成,因为在外国人心目中,狗是很可爱的,跑着的狗尤其可爱,它对外国人引起的联想是完全不同的。但是这个词我们用,外国人也用,现在已经被收入美国一九七六年印刷的 Webster's Third New International Dictionary 之中,也已被收入英国一九七六年出版的 Concise Oxford Dictionary 第六版之中。

练 习 3

怎样翻译下列句子和词组中加了着重号的词语?

- 1.四个现代化的建设是当前最大的政治。
- 2. 历史的经验和当前的现实都告诉我们……
- 3. 我们战胜了外国侵略势力先后对我国进行的孤立、封锁、干涉和挑衅,巩固了国家的独立。
- 4.对于共产党员来说,也就是要站在党的立场,站在党性和党的政策的立场。……许多同志常常失掉了自己的正确的立场。
- 5. 我们这个队伍完全是为着解放人民的,是彻底地为人民的利益工作的。
 - 6.侵略者及其忠实走狗

4 要不要重复

在一个汉语句子里或相连的几个句子里,往往有些词或词组重复出现。有时作为一种修辞手段,是为了加强语气。但在大多数情况下,重复使用一些词,并没有明显的强调的意思。这种重复恐怕只能说是汉语行文的习惯了。

英语和汉语相反,在一般情况下是避免重复的。一九七二年英国出版了一本语法书,叫做A Grammar of Contemporary English. 该书第十章中有一节专门谈了代称(substitution)的问题。书中写道: "Across sentences, substitution seems to be optional, and for stylistic reasons. Within sentences, it is sometimes obligatory."① 作者还把各种替代词统称为 proforms.

看来,汉语重复,英语不重复,这是两种语言的一个明显 的不同之处。在翻译过程中,怎样体现这样一个特点呢?

一、译文用代词,或用其它名词代替。

例1. 这就是要倾听人民群众的意见,要联系人民群众,而不要脱离人民群众的道理。(《毛泽东选集》第三卷,第767页,简称 II,767。下同)

This principle means that we should listen attentively to the views of the masses, keep in close touch with them and not become alienated from them. (III, 33)

AGrammar of Contemporary English, (London, 1973) p.677.

例2. 我们现在有许多做理论工作的干部,但还没有组成理论队伍,尤其是还没有强大的理论队伍。(V,144)

At present there are many cadres doing theoretical work, but there is still no corps of theoretical workers, much less a powerful one. (V, 159)

例3. 我们的民族将再也不是一个被人侮辱的民族了, … … (V, 5)

Ours will no longer be a nation subject to insult and humiliation. (V, 17)

例4. 艾奇逊们对于舆论的看法,混淆了反动派的舆论和人民的舆论。(N,1391)

In considering public opinion, the Achesons have mixed up the public opinion of the reactionaries with that of the people. (IV, 444)

前两个例子汉语重复名词词组"人民群众"和"理论队伍",后两个例子重复名词"民族"和"舆论",译文都用代词。这是一种最常见的现象。

例5. 一个地方有一个地方的全局,一个国家有一个国家的全局,一个地球有一个地球的全局。(V, 297-298)

A locality has its own over-all interect, a nation has another and the earth yet another. (V, 316)

例6. 一定的文化(当作观念形态的文化)是一定社会的政治和经济的反映,又给予伟大影响和作用于一定社会的政治和经济; ……(1,624)

Any given culture (as an ideological form) is a reflection of the politics and economics of a given society, and the former in turn has a tremendous influence and effect upon the latter;...

(11, 340)

这两个例子用 its own 代替 "一个地方", 用 another 代替 "全局", 用the latter 代替 "一定社会的政治和经济",句子都十分简洁。

例7. 非洲人民正在为争取非洲的彻底解放进行着艰巨的 斗争。(五届人大一次会议文件)

The people of Africa are waging a hard struggle to win the complete emancipation of the continent.

此处译文用 the continent, 以免重复 Africa, 这也是英语 里常见的一种表达方式。

- 二、为了避免重复动词, 英语常用 do, 或用助动词, 或用 to.
- **侧8**, ……使不适合广大群众斗争要求的艺术改变到适合 广大群众斗争要求的艺术……(I, 826)
- ...so that ... art which does not meet the demands of the struggle of the broad masses can be transformed into art that does. (III, 89)
- 例9. 青年团要配合党的中心工作,但在配合党的中心工作当中,要有自己的独立工作,要照顾青年的特点。(V,83)

The Youth League must co-ordinate its activities with the Party's central tasks, but in so doing it must have its own independent activities and take the characteristics of youth into consideration. (V, 95)

例10. 夺取这个胜利,已经是不要很久的时间和不要花费很大的气力了,巩固这个胜利,则是需要很久的时间和要花费很大的气力的事情。(N,1328)

To win this victory will not require much more time and

effort, but to consolidate it will. (IV, 373-374)

例17. 俄国人民的革命曾经是依照了这条定律,中国人民的革命也是依照这条定律。(IV,1376)

The Russian people's revolution followed this law, and so has the Chinese people's revolution. (IV, 428)

例12. ……决定什么东西是应当称赞或歌颂的,什么东西是不应当称赞或歌颂的,什么东西是应当反对的。(V,47)

... decide what to commend and praise, what not to, and what to oppose. (V, 58)

最后三个例子中的 will, so has 和 to, 严格说来不是 proforms, 而是一种省略的说法。在英语里用省略的办法避免重复也是常见的。

三、为了避免重复表语,英语常用 so 和 as.

例13. ……这是完全必要的和完全正义的,全国人民都已明白这种必要性和正义性。(V,50)

This is absolutely necessary and perfectly just, and the whole nation understands that it is so. (V, 61)

例14. 自周秦以来,中国是一个封建社会,其政治是封建的政治,其经济是封建的经济。(I,625)

From the Chou and Chin Dynasties onwards, Chinese society was *feudal*, as were its politics and its economy. (II, 341)

四、省略。

例15. 是迅速进步,不是慢慢地进步。(V, 155) We need rapid progress, not slow. (V, 170)

例16. ……使较低级的艺术逐渐提高成为较高级的艺术, ……(Ⅰ,826)

...so that art of a *lower level* can be gradually raised to a *higher* (III, 89)

在这两个例子中, slow 后面省去了 progress, higher 后面省去了 level. 最近在报刊上看到这样一句话:

The task of writing down a law for the deep ocean-bed has taken the United Nations nine years so far, and provoked a head-on clash between rich nations and poor. 在 poor 后面就不重复 nations 了。这说明英语里确实有这种表达方式存在。

五、用替代词代替整个分句 (clause),而且要表达与原来的分句相反的意思时也能用这个办法。

例17. 空洞干燥的教条公式是要破坏创作情绪的,但是它不但破坏创作情绪,而且首先破坏了马克思主义。(I,831,)

Empty, dry dogmatic formulas do indeed destroy the creative mood; not only that, they first destroy Marxism. (III, 94)

例18. 你们是上面的领导人员和下面的广大群众之间的桥梁,群众的意见经过你们传上来,上面的意见经过你们传下去。(I,915)

You are a bridge between the leadership and the broad masses; through you the opinions of the masses are transmitted to the leadership and *vice versa*. (III, 189)

例19. 一个人的工作,究竟是三分成绩七分错误,还是七,分成绩三分错误,必须有个根本的估计。(N,1334)

We must have a fundamental evaluation of a person's work and establish whether his achievements amount to 30 per cent and his mistakes to 70 per cent, or vice versa. (IV,

381)

例20. 所以,不仅地方对中央有要求,中央对地方也有要求。(V,146)

Therefore, not only do the local authorities have demands on the central authorities, but the same is true the other way round. (V, 161)

例21. 现在监狱里关人和从前两样,从前是绅士送农民来关,现在是农民送绅士来关。(I,25)

Today the people who are locked up are no longer the same. Formerly it was the gentry who sent peasants to be locked up, now it is the other way round. (I, 37)

上面的例子都是在本句中用替代词,以免重复。不在一个句子里,能不能用?能。替代词可以指前一句包含的部分意思或全部意思。

例22. 过去我们想,国民经济是否三年可以恢复。经过两年半的奋斗,现在国民经济已经恢复……, (V, 69)

In the past we wondered if the economy could recover in three years. As a result of two and a half years of hard struggle, it already has, (V, 81)

例23. 中国人从来就是一个伟大的勇敢的勤劳的民族,只是在近代是落伍了。这种落伍,完全是被外国帝国主义和本国反动政府所压迫和剥削的结果。(V,5)

The Chinese have always been a great, courageous and industrious nation; it is only in modern times that they have fallen behind. And that was due entirely to oppression and exploitation by foreign imperialism and domestic reactionary governments. (V, 16-17)

例24. 此次会议总结了过去时期的经验,决定了各项方针。

这种总结经验和决定方针的工作,是我们大家一起来做的,……(V,25)

The present session has summed up our experience in the past period and laid down various guiding principles.

We have done this work jointly . . . (V, 37)

由比看来,英语用代称比汉语多,代词用得尤其多,而且能量很大。但是与汉语相比,英语的代词有一个小小的缺点,就是它一般只能指离它较近的词语。如果离得远了,中间加了一些别的东西,它指什么就不清楚了。汉语则不然。汉语的代词可以指离它较远的词语。因此在翻译过程中,即使汉语用了代称,英语也要用实称。

例25. 美国建国只有一百八十年,它的钢在六十年前也只有四百万吨,我们比它落后六十年。假如我们再有五十年、六十年,就完全应该赶过它。(V,296)

The United States has a history of only one hundred and eighty years, and sixty years ago it too produced four million tons of steel, so we are sixty years behind. Given fifty or sixty years, we certainly ought to overtake the United States. (V, 315)

译文在第二句末尾重复 the United States, 大概就是因为 离第一句的主语太远了, 而且中间还插了 so we are

例26. 例如陈独秀,他就不知道拿着刀可以杀人。有人说,这是普遍的日常真理,共产党的领导人还会不知道?这很难说。他没有调查研究就不懂得这件事,所以我们给他起个名字,叫做机会主义者。没有调查研究就没有发言权,我们取

消了他的发言权。(W, 1025)

Chen Tu-hsiu, for example, did not understand that with swords one can kill people. Some say this is a plain every-day truth; how can a leader of the Communist Party fail to know it? But you never can tell. Chen Tu-hsiu made no investigation and study and so did not understand this, hence we called him an opportunist. He who makes no investigation and study has no right to speak, and accordingly we deprived Chen Tu-hsiu of that right. (IV, 15)

在原文里,"陈独秀"三个字只出现一次,后来都用代称。译文却用了三次实称。这是因为这段话里,有的话是具体谈到陈独秀的,有的话则只说明一般的道理,混在一起。如果都用代称,具体的和一般的就分不清了。特别是最后一句,一开头就是 He who,指的是任何人,如果最后再来一个 we deprived him of that right, him 则只能指 He, 这就不是原文的意思了。可见,代称虽好,用起来却要十分当心。

另外还有三种情况,汉语重复,英语也不用代称,不是照 样重复,就是另想办法。

第一种情况是, 原文重复是为了强调, 或者是就某一个词 加以发挥。

例27. 对于蒋介石发动内战的阴谋,我党所采取的方针是明确的和一贯的,这就是坚决反对内战,不赞成内战,要阻止内战。(Ⅵ,1023)

With regard to Chiang Kai-shek's plot to launch a civil war, our Party's policy has been clear and consistent, that is, resolutely to oppose civil war, be against civil war and prevent civil war. (IV, 13)

例28. 学生运动的口号是要饭吃,要和平,要自由,亦即 反饥饿,反内战,反迫害。(Ⅵ,1121)

The slogan of the student movement is "Food, Peace, Freedom" or "Against Hunger, Against Civil War, Against Persecution". (IV, 135)

例29. 这样,使他不能不讲讲现实主义。人家讲现实主义,我们也讲现实主义。人家讲现实主义来邀请,我们讲现实主义去谈判。(VI,1056)

Therefore, he has to be a little *realistic*. He is being *realistic*, and we are *realistic* too. He was *realistic* in inviting us and we were *realistic* in going to negotiate with him. (IV, 55)

例30、事情就是这样,他来进攻,我们把他消灭了,他就舒服了。消灭一点,舒服一点;消灭得多,舒服得多,彻底消灭,彻底舒服。(Y,1057)

This is the way things are: if they attack and we wipe them out, they will have that satisfaction; wipe out some, some satisfaction; wipe out more, more satisfaction; wipe out the whole lot, complete satisfaction. (IV, 56)

这几个例子,原文都是有意重复的。例27和例28都连续重复三四次,是非常强调的。翻译时如果不照样重复,而用代称或省略,则不能达到这样的效果。例29和例30原文通过重复使文章生动、活泼。译文同样重复,表现了原文的风格。

第二种情况是,汉语有一种句子,主语和表语重复。这种句子并不是汉语独有的。在英文小说中看到过这样的例子,Orders are orders. 因此,遇到这种句子,译文可以和原文一样重复。

例81. 青年就是青年,不然,何必要搞青年团呢?(V,86)

After all, youth is youth, or else why bother to have a Youth League? (V, 98)

例32. 在他们看来,战争就是战争,和平就是和平,两个东西只是互相排斥,毫无联系,……(V,348)

In their view, war is war and peace is peace, the two are mutually exclusive and entirely unconnected, . . . (V, 368)

例33. 中国人也好,外国人也好,死人也好,活人也好, 对的就是对的,不对的就是不对的,……(V,131)

What is right is right and what is wrong is wrong, whether it concerns the Chinese or foreigners, whether it concerns the dead or the living. (V, 146)

第三种情况是,汉语还有另外一种重复的现象,英语是无 法照样重复的。这便要抓住句子真正的意思灵活处理了。

例34、你没有搞好,我是不满意的,得罪了你就得罪了你。(V,155)

You have done a poor job and I am not satisfied, and if you feel offended, so be it. (V, 170)

例35、胡宗南进攻陝甘宁边区,我们的县城只剩下一个,但我们并没有退出边区,吃树叶就吃树叶, ……(Y, 97)

When Hu Tsung-nan attacked the Shensi-Kansu-Ningsia Border Region, we did not pull out although we had only one county seat left, and we thought nothing of it when we had to live on the leaves of the trees. (V, 110)

例36. ……我们希望他讲一讲他自己的错误,但是他讲别的东西,只讲我们这些人怎么好怎么好。(V,301)

... we expressed the hope that he would speak on his mistakes, but instead he digressed, lavishing praises upon us. (V, 319)

总的看来,还是英语多用代称,汉语多用实称。掌握了这一特点之后,在英译汉时,便可以不怕重复,放手使用实称。 只有这样,译文才符合汉语的习惯,而且有时如果不重复,简 直就没有别的办法。请看:

M37. There has been no doubt in my mind of the progress which you have achieved. Now I shall be able to see it for myself.... (Speech by Mr. Edward Heath)

对于你们所取得的进步,我没有任何怀疑。现在,我将能 亲眼看看这些进步。……

Miss. Even if the money were available, which it was not, the navy cannot be reconfigured... into a force built around attack submarines. (Drew Middleton, Can America Win the Next War?)

别说实际上拿不到那么多的钱,即使能拿到,也不能把海 军改造……成一支以攻击潜艇为中心的军事力量。

练 习 4

怎样翻译下列句子中重复出现的词语?

- 1、我们的国家现在还是一个很穷的国家。
- 2.我们的毛病还很多。我们不怕说出自己的毛病,我们一定要改正自己的毛病。
 - 3.成绩有两重性,错误也有两重性。
- 4.军队干部必须帮助地方干部,地方干部也必须帮助军队 干部。

- 5.我们的事业是正义的。正义的事业是任何敌人也攻不破的。 、
- 6.我们坚信社会主义有伟大的前途,我们坚信我国亿万人 民有伟大的前途。

5 次序要不要颠倒

汉英两种语言的结构有很大不同。在翻译的时候,把句子成分的次序加以颠倒是常见的现象。但有时有两个并列的词,比如两个名词或两个形容词,从语法的角度来看,译文并不一定要颠倒次序。遇到这种情况,翻译时要不要考虑颠倒次序呢?

一、汉英两种语言在长期使用的过程中,都形成了一些比较固定的顺序。虽然看不出有什么理由一定要这么说,但在翻译时还是应该按照译文应有的顺序,而不能拘泥于原文。

例1. 一定要分清敌我。(《毛泽东选集》第五卷,第283页,简称 V,283。下同)

We must draw a clear distinction between ourselves and the enemy. (V, 301)

汉语的次序是敌我,译文却把 ourselves 放在前面,把 the enemy 放在后面。"敌我矛盾"译作 contradictions between ourselves and the enemy,也是这样。但是汉语讲"我和某某人",英语却要把"我"放在后面。

M2. Then, this afternoon, you and I, Mr. Vice-Premier, had a most fruitful discussion. (Speech by Mr. Edward Heath)

今天下午,我又同你,副总理先生,进行了极富有成效的 会读。

侧3. 男女老少(1,34)

men and women, young and old (I, 47)

例4. 钢铁工业

the iron and steel industry

二、有时并列的词有轻重之分。汉语往往把重的词放在前,把轻的词放在后。英语则恰恰相反。一九七七年美国出版的 Latin America 一书中有这样一句话:

Many such expeditions ended in disappointment, failure, disaster, death.

若把轻的词放在后边, 就显得压不住了。

例5. 无地和少地的农民(〗,980)

those peasants who have little or no land (III, 252)

例6. 丰收年多积累一点,灾荒年或者半灾荒年就不积累 或者少积累一点。(V, 361)

Accumulate more in good years and less or none in years when the crops half fail or totally fail. (V, 382)

例7. 这是对各级干部特别是对县区乡三级干部没有审查,或者审查工作做得不好的问题。(V,73)

It means failure to make a proper examination, or indeed any examination at all, of cadres at the various levels, particularly at the county, district and township levels. (V, 85)

以上三例都涉及不同的程度,是部分,还是全部。涉及部分的就轻,涉及全部的就重。汉英安排的次序正好相反。

例8. 赦死扶伤,实行革命的人道主义

Heal the wounded, rescue the dying, practise revolutionary humanitarianism.

例9. 它有一部分领袖人物不属于这个集团,而且被这个 集团所打击、排斥或轻视。(I,948)

Some Kuomintang leaders do not belong to this clique

by which they are even slighted, pushed aside or attacked. (III, 221-222)

例10. 但是我们一方面取之于民,一方面就要使人民经济有所增长,有所补充。(II,848)

But while taking from the people we must at the same time help them to replenish and expand their economy. (III, 113)

例11. 旧的资产阶级民主主义文化,在帝国主义时代,已经腐化,已经无力了,它的失败是必然的。(I,657)

The old bourgeois-democratic culture became *enervated* and *decayed* in the era of imperialism, and its failure was inevitable. (II, 371)

例12. 知识分子和青年学生(V, 385) students and intellectuals (V, 405)

例13. 因此, 我们并不认为,它们必须或者应当采取中国的做法。(V, 394)

Therefore, we do not maintain that they should or must adopt the Chinese way. (V, 413)

前三个例子可能指不同的对象,有轻重之分,例11单指一个对象,但用词有程度之不同。最后两个例子,intellectuals 比 students 重, must 比 should 重, 译文都把重的词放在后面了。

三、有时两件事情,多少可以看出一点时间先后。在这种情况下,译文就要照顾时间的顺序而适当地安排。

例14. 手疾眼快

quick of eye and deft of hand (《汉英词典》第630页。) 根据英语的逻辑,大概要先看见再动手吧。 例15. 我们共产党员应该经风雨,见世面,这个风雨,就 是群众斗争的大风雨,这个世面,就是群众斗争的大世面。 (I,887)

We Communists ought to face the world and brave the storm, the great world of mass struggle and the mighty storm of mass struggle. (III, 158)

例16. 我们应该抑制自满,时时批评自己的缺点,好象我们为了清洁,为了去掉灰尘,天天要洗脸,天天要扫地一样。 (Ⅰ,889)

We should check our complacency and constantly criticize our shortcomings, just as we should wash our faces or sweep the floor every day to remove the dirt and keep them clean. (III, 160)

从逻辑上讲, 要先 face the world, 在此过程中 brave the storm. 如果先说 brave the storm, 则 face the world 就显得是多余的了。例16更是要先 remove the dirt, 然后才能 keep them clean.

四、有时句子似乎体现一定的因果关系,但不很明显,汉语可以把原因放在后面,英语则往往按逻辑顺序安排。

例17. 不论什么人,凡对于这个革命统一战线的巩固工作有所贡献者,我们就欢迎他,他就是正确的,凡对于这个革命统一战线的巩固工作有所损害者,我们就反对他,他就是错误的。(V,28)

Wheever contributes to the consolidation of this revolutionary united front is doing right, and we welcome him; whoever harms this consolidation is doing wrong, and we oppose him. (V, 39)

例18. 比如贪污分子大多数还是个是非问题,还是可以改造的,他们与反革命不同。(V,68)

For instance, with most of the embezzlers, it is just a matter of right and wrong, for they are different from counter-revolutionaries and can be reformed. (V, 80)

俩19. 听说去年评级的时候,就有些人闹得不象样子,痛 哭流涕。(V,419)

I have heard that during the grading of cadres last year, some people burst into tears and made terrible scenes. (V, 436)

五、译文是不是可以不按英语的习惯顺序,而按汉语的习惯顺序安排呢?这样的例子也是有的。

例20. 应该承认,有些群众往往容易注意当前的、局部的、 个人的利益,而不了解或者不很了解长远的、全国性的、集体 的利益。(V,395)

It should be admitted that among the masses some are prone to pay attention to immediate, partial and personal interests and do not understand, or do not sufficiently understand, long-range, national and collective interests. (V, 414)

这个例子,译文照汉语的顺序,把重的词放在前,轻的词放在后,但在轻的词前后加了逗号,这就得到了加强,使人不感到头重脚轻了。

例21. 侵略、干涉、颠复、控制、欺负

aggression, interference, subversion, control or bullying

例22. 调整、改革、整顿、提高(五届入大二次会议文件)

readjustment, restructuring, consolidation and improve-

ment

这些词在政治文件里出现,怎样排列是有一定考虑的,译 文就不再按照轻重调整次序了。

例23. 文艺

literature and art

英语有个习惯,短的词放在前,长的词放在后。因此英语的习惯说法是 art and literature. 但是许多年来,我国的出版物往往是把 literature 放在前,大概是因为要强调文学吧。一九四七年纽约国际出版社出版了一本马克思恩格斯论文艺,书名也是 Literature and Art.

最后谈一谈 can 和 must (或 should)的次序。《纽约时报》 副社长赖斯顿在会见了基辛格之后写了一篇报导,其中有这样 一句话。

But while the historian had to live "with a sense of the inevitability of tragedy", the statesman had to act on the assumption that problems could and must be solved — and that was his approach.

在 John Service 所著 Amerasia Papers (1971) — 书中有这样一句话:

... to this end factional differences can and should be merged and settled by intelligent conciliation and co-operation.

在联合国大会的发言中有这样一句话。

No problem of importance can or should be settled without China.

看来,英语的习惯是把 can 放在前面,而汉语往往把"必须"(或"应当")放在前面,把"可能"(或"能够")放

在后面。从收集到的译例来看,翻译时,有时照英语习惯,有时则照汉语顺序。请看,

例24.在应当利用和可能利用议会斗争和其他合法斗争形式的时候拒绝利用,这是错误的。但是……

It is wrong to refuse to use parliamentary and other legal forms of struggle when they can and should be used. However

例25. 任何矛盾不但应当解决,也是完全可以解决的。 (V,387)

However, not only should all such contradictions be resolved, but they definitely can be. (V, 407)

练 习 5

怎样安排下列句子和词组中加了着重号的词语?

- 1.中、小国家
- 2.我们看到的许多文章,就是没有提到这个问题,或者很少提到这个问题。
 - 3.反修防修
- 4.毫无疑问,我们的社会主义制度已经开始显示出它的生命力和发展前途。但是,它还不成熟,不完善,还没有抵御和防止林彪、"四人帮"十年破坏这种严重袭击的准备。

6 怎样译比较清楚

有时汉语一个句子的意思本来是清楚的,但如果照字面译成英语,意思就可能不清楚,甚至会引起误解。这就需要考虑如何把话说清楚。

一、加词,把句中事物之间的关系说清楚。

例1. 所以,重工业和轻工业、农业的关系,必须处理好。(《毛泽东选集》第五卷,第268页,简称V,268。下同)

Therefore, the relationship between heavy industry on the one hand and light industry and agriculture on the other must be properly handled. (V, 285)

例2. 这种矛盾包括国家利益、集体利益同个人利益之间的矛盾,……(V,365)

These include the contradictions between the interests of the state and the interests of the collective on the one hand and the interests of the individual on the other, ... (V, 385-386)

这两个例子,译文都加了 on the one hand and ... on the other. 如果不加,只用 and (而且根据英语的习惯,要把 and 放在最后一个名词之前),则会被误解为三个方面之间是并列关系。在遇到两个以上的名词,作为两类事物来对比时,译文常常要增加这一词组。但要非常小心,因为有时三者确是并列的,在这种情况下就只能译作并列关系了。请看下面这个例子:

例3. 在分配问题上,我们必须兼顾国家利益、集体利益

和个人利益。对于国家的税收、合作社的积累、农民的个人收入这三方面的关系,必须处理适当,经常注意调节其中的矛盾。(V,380)

On the question of distribution, we must take the interests of the state, the collective and the individual into account. We must properly handle the three-way relationship between the state agricultural tax, the co-operative's accumulation fund and the peasants' personal income, and take constant care to make readjustments so as to resolve contradictions between them. (V, 400-401)

例4. 工人阶级、劳动人民和革命知识分子,将在斗争中取得经验,受到锻练,这是很有益处的。(V,355)

The working class, the other sections of the working people and the revolutionary intellectuals will gain experience and temper themselves in the course of struggle, and this is a great advantage. (V, 376)

例5. ……很多干部和人民都在实际上懂得这个问题。 (V, 371)

... and many cadres and many other people are familiar with it in practice. (V, 392)

在例4和例5的译文中,分别增加了 the other sections of 和 other. 如果不加,就会造成一种印象,好象工人阶级不是劳动人民的一部分,干部也不是人民的一部分,而都是并列的。从概念上讲,如果一连串的名词,有的指全部,有的指其一部分,译文加 other,是常见的现象。"工厂企业"(V,49)译作 factories and *other* enterprises(V,60)也是一例。

例6. 凡是贪污了的, ……。但是总要承认错误, 自己报

出来。这就是给他搭一个楼梯,让他慢慢下楼。(V,327·328)

Whoever has embezzled public money But in any case he must admit his mistake and of his own accord state the amount taken. This is to provide him, so to speak, with a staircase by which he can come down step by step. (V, 347-348)

例7. 我希望,我们所有的同志,首先是老同志,不要翘尾巴,而要夹紧尾巴,戒骄戒躁,永远保持谦虚进取的精神。(V,152)

I hope all our comrades, and veteran comrades most of all, will, so to speak, tuck their tails between their legs rather than stick them up, guard against conceit and rashness, always remain modest and keep forging ahead. (V, 167)

译文加了 so to speak. 如果不加,外国读者也许会不理解为什么忽然提到"楼梯"和"尾巴"。

例8. 这个时期,以瞿秋白、李主三、王明为代表的三次"左"倾机会主义路线,给我们党带来了很大的损失,……(V,307)

During this period the three "Left" opportunist lines which were represented successively by Chu Chiu-pai, Li Li-san and Wang Ming caused great losses to our Party,.... (V, 326)

三人不是同时而是先后代表了三次"左"倾机会主义路线,所以译文加了 successively.

例9. 法律是上层建筑。(V, 358) Laws form part of the superstructure. (V, 379) 法律是上层建筑,但只是其一部分,而不是其全部。

例10. 因此, 我劝同志们要学哲学。(V, 145)

I therefore recommend that you comrades read philosophy. (V, 160)

例11. ……只要同志们坚决勇敢,善于团结当地人民,善于和侵略者作战,最后胜利就是我们的。(Y,32)

So long as you comrades are firm and brave and are good at uniting with the people there and at fighting the aggressors, final victory will be ours. (V, 43)

例12. 我常跟同志讲, 你头上长"角"没有? 你们各位同志可以摸一摸。(V, 156)

I often ask comrades if they have "horns" on their heads. Comrades, touch and feel if you have any. (V, 170-171)

"同志们"一词,在例10中是指在会上听讲的人,在例11中是指接受命令的人,而不是指其他人,所以译为 you comrades. 例12之头一句中,"同志"一词是泛指,并不专指会上听讲的人,故译作 comrades,代词用 they 和 their 第二句之"你们各位同志"没有译作 you comrades,而是译作呼语了。

二、汉语的造句法里有所谓"意合法"。①一个句子可以包含两个或几个分句(clause),分句之间在意思上是有联系的,但不用连词。英语却不能这样,往往需要把这种联系明确表示出来。请看下面的例子:

例18. 水有水波,热有热浪。(V. 361)

Water moves in water waves and heat in heat waves. (V, 382)

① 王力。《中國语法理论》上册,第115页。

例14.知识分子下乡找农民,如果态度不好,就不能取得农民的信任。(V,306)

When intellectuals go to the countryside to seek out the peasants, they cannot win their trust unless they have the right attitude. (V, 325)

例15. 旧社会的一个内阁总理可以去当县长,为什么我们的都长倒不能去当县长? (V, 330)

If a prime minister in the old society could serve as a county magistrate, why on earth can't our government ministers do likewise? (V, 350)

例16. 农民得土地这件事,是属于资产阶级民主革命的性质,它只破坏封建所有制,不破坏资本主义所有制和个体所有制。(V,198)

The procuring of land by the peasants was a bourgeoisdemocratic revolution in nature, for it destroyed feudal ownership only, not capitalist ownership or individual ownership. (V, 214)

例17. 中国过去也是受帝国主义、封建主义压迫的国家, 我们的情况很接近。(V, 305)

In the past China was also a country oppressed by imperialism and feudalism, so our conditions and yours are quite similar. (V, 324)

例18. 我们的革命和建设,成绩是主要的,缺点错误也有。(V,339)

In our revolution and construction, the achievements are primary, though there are shortcomings and mistakes. (V, 359-360)

以上例中的 and, when, if, for, so, though 原文中并没有, 但是意在其中,是译者从上下文中得出来的。当然有一定的主 观成份,这就要求译者格外小心,不要把意思弄错。

例19. 日本是小国,其战争是退步的和野蛮的,其国际地位将益处于孤立,中国是大国,其战争是进步的和正义的,其国际地位将益处于多助。(1,438)

Japan is a small country, her war is reactionary and barbarous, and she will become more and more isolated internationally; China is a large country, her war is progressive and just, and she will enjoy more and more support internationally. (II, 144)

这个例子,起初发表的译文是:

As Japan is a small country and her war is retrogressive and barbarous, she will become more and more isolated internationally; as China is a big country and her war is progressive and just, she will enjoy more and more international support. (1954 ed.)

双方各有三个条件,应是并列的。但起初发表的译文在句 首加了 as. 这样,前两个条件就成了原因,后一个条件就成了 结果。但"日本是小国"不能构成"其国际地位 将益处于孤 立"的原因,同样,"中国是大国"也不能构成"其国际地位 将益处于多助"的理由。

三、汉语有些词在使用过程中逐渐简化,有些词在一定的历史条件下用过,离开当时的条件,意思就不清楚了。这在翻译时,就不能只照字面译,而需要加一些词,把真正的含义表达出来。

例20. 我们相信,这次大会是可以开好的,代表们的水平

是能够保证这次大会开好的。(V, 304)

We are certain that the congress will be a success and that with their *political* level the delegates will assure its success. (V, 323)

这里所谓"水平"是指"政治水平",故加 political 一词。"搞清楚群众的情况怎样"(V, 358),译作 find out the *political* conditions of the masses (V, 379),也是一例。此处若不加 political,就指群众的生活状况了。需要加 political一词的场合还是经常会遇到的。

例21、"三反""五反"(V , 57)

the movements against the "three evils" and against the "five evils" (V, 68)

记得这两个词过去曾译作 san fan movement 和 wu fan movement, 就不如现在的译法清楚了。

例22. 新区;老区(V,118)

new liberated areas; old liberated areas (V, 133)

例23. 新知识分子(V, 35)

the intellectuals recently drawn into our work (V, 46)

这几个词都是解放战争时期或解放初期用的词,现在如只译作 new areas, old areas, new intellectuals, 就不知道究竟是什么意思了。

例24. 一九二八年夏提出了六项注意。一、上门板, ……(Ⅳ, 1138)

In the summer of 1928 he set forth Six Points for Attention: (1) Put back the doors you have taken down for bed-boards; (IV, 156)

这第一项如果不加词, 只译作 Put back the doors, 也就

不知道是什么意思了。

例25. 就是在开始实行统购统销的时候。(V, 335)

At the time when the state monopoly of the purchase and marketing of grain was first instituted. (V, 355)

例26、公粮(V, 105及360)

grain to be collected from the peasants (V, 119) grain delivered to the state (V, 381)

这两个译法,前者是从国家的角度,后者是从农民的角度,意思都是清楚的。有时也可以从简,就译作 grain. "一九四一年,陕甘宁边区征了二十万石公粮……"(Y,105)就译作 In 1941 we collected 200,000 piculs of grain in the Shensi-Kansu-Ningsia Border Region...(Y,119) 从上下文看也是清楚的。但若译作 public grain 恐是不妥当的。把"公粮"译成"公家的粮食",意思就不对了。

四、有时遇到一些典故、谚语等,中国人一看就明白了, 无需多加解释。但外国读者不一定知道, 这就需要适当地加一点说明。

例27. 孙悟空在太上老君的八挂炉里头一般炼就更好了。 (Y,442)

The Monkey Sun Wu-kung becomes much stronger after being tempered in the Eight-Diagram Magic Crucible of the God of Supreme Power. (V, 459)

如果只说 Sun Wu-kung, 外国读者可能不知是何许人, 但只要一提 the Monkey, 他们就会感到熟悉了。记得《西游记》一书过去有过一个英译本, 题目就是 The Monkey.

例28. 班门弄斧。(V, 111)

This is like showing off one's proficiency with the axe

before Lu Pan the master carpenter. (V, 125)

例29、"三个臭皮匠,合成一个诸葛亮"(匠,887)

"Three cobblers with their wits combined equal Chukeh Liang the master mind." (III, 158)

这个谚语译得极好,意思很清楚,而且还押韵。

例30、这少数人打倒了, "鲁智深"解放了。(V, 68)

Once this small number is overthrown, ordinary monks like "Lu Chih-shen" will be emancipated. (V, 81)

在译文本身简单地加一点说明,最多也就做到以上那样了。如果仍然觉得不够清楚,还可以采取加注的办法进一步说明,关于例29提到的诸葛亮,例30提到的鲁智深,英译本都加了注释。

练 习 6

翻译下列各句时,哪些地方需要加词?

- 1.中国是一个社会主义国家。中国属于第三世界, 同第三世界国家有着共同经历, 面临着共同任务。
 - 2.这样,有利于解决国家、厂长同群众的矛盾。
 - 3.应当承认这一点。这是每一次运动都证明了的。
- 4.最近湘潭马家河,有率领一万五千群众向六个劣绅问罪,延时四日,杀猪百三十余个的事。
 - 5.边区的生产,可以说是走上了轨道。
- 6. 敌我之间和人民内部这两类矛盾的性质不同,解决的方法也不同。

7 哪些词可以不译

汉语里有些词,有时有具体含义,有时没有具体含义,或具体含义不多。比如"工作"一词,是有具体含义的。但在"为……作准备工作"中,"工作"一词就没有什么具体含义了。"作准备工作"等于"作准备"。类似的词还有"问题"、"情况"、"态度",等等,从事翻译工作的同志称之为"范畴词"(category words)。这类词在翻译的时候往往就不译了。

例1. 在这里, 也要说到敌我矛盾的问题, 但是重点是讨论人民内部的矛盾问题。(《毛泽东选集》第五卷,第363页, 简称 V. 363。下同)

Although reference will be made to contradictions between ourselves and the enemy, this discussion will centre on contradictions among the people. (V, 384)

句中两个问题,一个是敌我矛盾,一个是人民内部矛盾,都提出来了。在这里,矛盾就是问题,所以"问题"一词就不译了。

例2、 在解放战争时期……(V, 364)

During the War of Liberation . . . (V, 385)

the War of Liberation 本身就包含着"时期"的意思, during 更是明确地表示时间概念。因此, "时期"一词就不译了。如果用 in, 恐怕还是要译作 in the period of ...

例3. 中国革命的胜利为世界政治、世界革命的发展增加

了新的重要动力,展示了新的光明前景。(叶剑英:《在庆祝中华人民共和国成立三十周年大会上的讲话》)

The victorious Chinese revolution has given a new and powerful impetus to world politics and world revolution and opened up bright vistas.

"发展"二字没有译出来,但意思包含在句子之中了。如译作 give an impetus to the development of world politics.... 反而不顾。

例4. 这就表明,在人民内部实行民主制度,……(V, 367)

That is to say, democracy operates within the ranks of the people, (V, 387)

例5. 没有人民的自由,没有人民的民主政治,能够统一么?(1,972)

Can there be unity if the people have no freedom or democracy? (III, 244)

"民主制度"和"民主政治"都只译作 democracy. "民主政治"有时也可以译作 democratic government, 但是 democracy 一词也就够了。 Concise Oxford Dictionary 对这个词的解释就是 government by all the people, direct or representative.

例6. 我们的将来纲领或最高纲领,是要将中国推进到社会主义社会和共产主义社会去的,这是确定的和毫无疑义的。 (E, 960)

Definitely and beyond all doubt, our future or maximum programme is to carry China forward to socialism and communism. (III, 232)

这里 socialism 和 communism 都是指的社会制度,所以"社会"一词没有译,这样译文更顺一些。

例7. 前怕龙后怕虎的态度不能造就干部。(Y,169)

"Fearing dragons ahead and tigers behind" will not produce cadres. (V, 185)

例8. 由此可见,那些说合作化不好了的议论是没有根据的。(V, 379)

Clearly there are no grounds for saying that something has gone wrong with agricultural co-operation. (V, 400)

例9. 讨论的范围涉及中美关系,中苏关系, ……(IV, 1388)

The discussion covers Sino-U.S. relations, Sino-Soviet relations, (IV, 441)

这三个例子中,"态度"、"议论"、"范围"的具体内容是通过附加语表示出来的。译文把附加语表示的具体内容直接和句子的其它部分连起来,比较紧凑。例8还有一个搭配的问题,英语不说 The scope of the discussion covers

例10、许多人说农民苦,这种意见对不对呢?(V, 381) Many people say that the peasants lead a hard life. Is this true?(V, 401)

例11. 有些青年人以为到了社会主义社会就应当什么都好了,就可以不费气力享受现成的幸福生活了,这是一种不实际的想法。(Y,386)

Some of our young people think that everything ought to be perfect once a socialist society is established and that they should be able to enjoy a happy life ready-made, without working for it. This is unrealistic. (V, 406)

- 例12. 这些道理,广大人民群众是懂得的。(V, 368) All this is well understood by the masses. (V, 389)
- 例13. 这种现象是很好的,是很有教育作用的。(VI, 1388)

All this is very good and is of great educational value. (IV, 441)

这四个例子都是先在前半句或在前面的句子里把具体内容 说清楚,然后再用"意见"、"想法"、"道理"、"现象" 等词加以概括,因此译文也就用比较笼统的词了。

英译汉有时也会遇到类似的情况。Facts speak louder than eloquence。(事实胜于雄辩。)在这句话里 facts 有实际意思。但在 the fact that ... 这种结构中, fact 就没有实际意思,在翻译时就可以不译,不必译作"……这一事实"。

除了范畴词一般可以不译以外,还有两种情况值得提一下。一种情况是,汉语往往前面说"例如",后面说"等等"。 译成英语时,"等等"是可以不译的。

例14. 现在大汉族主义还是很不少的,例如包办代替,不尊重人家的风俗习惯,自以为是,看不起人家,说人家怎么样落后等等。(V, 213-214)

At present, there is still a good deal of Han chauvinism, for example, monopolizing the affairs of the minority nationalities, showing no respect for their customs and folk-ways, being self-righteous, looking down on them and saying how backward they are. (V, 229-230)

例15. 要肯定现在还有少数反革命分子,他们还在进行各种反革命破坏活动,比如把牛弄死,把粮食烧掉,破坏工厂,盗窃情报,贴反动标语,等等。(V, 281)

It should be affirmed that there are still a small number of counter-revolutionaries carrying out counter-revolutionary sabotage of one kind or another. For example, they kill cattle, set fire to granaries, wreck factories, steal information and put up reactionary posters. (V, 299)

有时前边没有"比如",后边有个"等"字(或"等等"), 这个"等"字译不译?

例16. 我们正在采取措施, 逐步加强京包、京广、陇海等主要铁路干线薄弱区段的改造, ……(五届人大二次会议文件)

Measures are being taken gradually to strengthen the transformation of the weak sections along the Beijing-Baotou, Beijing-Guangzhou, Longhai and other trunk railway lines

例17. 长江、黄河、黑龙江、珠江等四大河流

the four large rivers—the Changjiang, the Huanghe, the Heilongjiang and the Zhujiang (《汉英词典》第143页)

"等"字有两个意思,一是"列举未尽",有实义;二是"列举后煞尾",是虚的。例16属于第一种情况,除了这里提到的铁路干线以外,还有别的铁路干线,所以译为 and other trunk railway lines。例17属于第二种情况,所以句中的"等"字就不译了。"等"字译不译,首先要根据上下文判断虚实。如无法判断,就只好请教原作者了。

还有一种情况是,有些概念,汉语有两种表达方式,而英语只有一种表达方式,翻译时只好从简。

例18. 中国人民在几十年中积累起来的一切经验,都叫我们实行人民民主专政,或曰人民民主独裁,总之是一样,就是

剥夺反动派的发言权,只让人民有发言权。(N,1364)

All the experience the Chinese people have accumulated through several decades teaches us to enforce the people's democratic dictatorship, that is, to deprive the reactionaries of the right to speak and let the people alone have that right. (IV, 417)

例19.从这点上,建立我们的策略思想和战术思想。(N, 1088)

On this we should build our tactical thinking. (IV, 99) 例20. 一九一一年的革命,即辛亥革命,到今年,不过四

十五年,中国的面目完全变了。(V, 311)

It is only forty-five years since the Revolution of 1911, but the face of China has entirely changed. (V, 330)

练 习 7

下列句子和词组中, 哪些词可以不译?

- 1.我们各方面的建设事业都在蓬勃地发展着。
- 2. 无产阶级和全体劳动人民在夺取了国家政权,确立了自己的政治统治以后,就必须把经济建设的任务提到首要地位。
- 3.当前以及今后相当长一个历史时期,我们的主要任务,就是有系统、有计划地进行社会主义现代化建设。
 - 4.我想在这里谈一下节约的问题。
 - 5.敢于同各种无纪律、无效率的现象作斗争
 - 6. 乱子有二重性。我们可以用这个观点去看待一切乱子。

8 单数还是复数

英语的可数名词有单数和复数两种形式。汉语则没有这种区别。汉语有个"们"字,可以表示复数,但用得远没有英语的复数形式那样广泛。由于这种情况,在翻译的时候会遇到两个问题。

(一)在泛指的时候,用单数还是复数?

如果一个句子里,数的概念十分明确,翻译时一般不会出现什么问题。如果是泛指,也有几种处理办法。

例1. 我们有一句老话,小米加步枪。(《毛泽东选集》第 五卷,第137页,简称 V,137。下同)

We have an expression, millet plus rifles. (V, 153)

例2. 自从盘古开天辟地以来,我们不晓得造飞机,造汽车,现在开始能造了。(V, 271)

Ever since Pan Ku separated heaven and earth, we have never been able to make *planes* and *cars*, and now we are beginning to make them. (V, 288)

例3. 不尊重人家的风俗习惯(V, 213)

showing no respect for their customs and folk-ways (V, 229-230)

这三个例子中, rifles, planes, cars, customs, folk-ways 都是泛指,都用了复数形式。但有时也不一定用复数形式,而用冠词。

例4. "麻雀虽小, 肝胆俱全"(V, 214)

"small as it is, the sparrow has all the vital organs" (V, 222)

例5. "瓜熟蒂落" (V, 214)

"When a melon is ripe, it falls off its stem." (V, 230)

这两个例子中, sparrow 前加定冠 词, 表示这个类别, melon 前加不定冠词,表示任何一个,都是泛指。

例6. 由此也可看出,合作社一定要在艰苦奋斗中建立起来。(V,379)

It is also clear that it takes hard struggle to build cooperatives. (V, 400)

例7. 国家要积累,合作社也要积累,但是都不能过多。 (V,380)

Accumulation is essential for both the state and the cooperative, but in neither case should it be excessive. (V, 401)

例8. 另一方面,参加合作社的各个家庭, ……(V, 380)

At the same time, every household in a co-operative (V, 400)

这三个例子中, co-operatives, the co-operative, a co-operative 都是泛指。从形式上看,不是用复数,就是加定冠词或不定冠词,没有一个例子是用单数而又不加冠词的。

有两个词的用法和上面说的情况相反,因此在使用单数还是复数上经常产生一些问题。这两个词就是 struggle 和 experience. 根据 Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Current English, struggle 是可数名词, experience 既是不可数名词, 也是可数名词。我觉得这两个词有些共同之处,所以在这里放在一起讨论。

有些同志在用这两个词的时候,在泛指的情况下,往往爱用复数。大概是认为复数表示"多",多了就"泛"。其实,在泛指的时候,这两个词往往是用单数(如例9、例10和例12、例13)在比较具体的场合才用复数。(如例11和例14)。

例9. 马克思主义也是在斗争中发展起来的。(V, 389) Marxism, too, has developed through struggle. (V, 409)

例10. 相反,马克思主义者就是要在人们的批评中间,就是要在斗争的风雨中间,锻炼自己,发展自己,扩大自己的 阵地。(V,391)

Quite the contrary, they need to temper and develop themselves and win new positions in the teeth of criticism and in the storm and stress of *struggle*. (V, 410)

- 例11. ……领导广大的人民,进行了不断的斗争, …… (V, 8)
- ... have guided the masses in their unceasing struggles ... (V, 19)
- 例12. 我奉劝诸位,切记不要硬搬中国的 经 验。任何外国的经验只能作参考,不能当作教条。(V,307)

I beg to advise you not to transplant Chinese experience mechanically. The experience of any foreign country can serve only for reference and must not be regarded as dogma. (V, 326)

例13. 我们这个宪法草案,主要是总结了我国的革命经验和建设经验,同时它也是本国经验和国际经验的结合。(V, 127)

This Draft Constitution of ours is chiefly a summing-up of our experience in revolution and construction, but at the

same time it is a synthesis of domestic and international experience. (V, 143)

例14. 我们党的一些历史经验(V, 305)

Some Experiences in Our Party's History (V, 324)

这里有一点值得注意。 Experiences (复数)的意思,往往不是"经验",而是"经历"。请看:

15. We in Britain have a social and political system which differs in many respects from your own. It is the result of different experiences and a different tradition. (Speech by Mr. Edward Heath)

我们英国的社会、政治制度在许多方面与你们的不同。这 是不同的经历和不同的传统造成的。

(二)在专指的时候,用单数还是复数?

有时一句话涉及具体的事物,但究竟是一件还是几件,从表面上看不出来。这就需要根据事物的实际情况来决定。为了弄清实际情况,首先要看上下文。上下文往往可以提供一些线索,如果还不清楚,就需要查看有关的资料,或请教原作者了。

例16. 这个宪法草案也总结了从清朝末年以来关于宪法问题的经验,从……到……。这里面有积极的,也有消极的。 (V,126-127)

Besides, it sums up the experience in constitution-making since the last years of the Ching Dynasty, that is, from ... to One of these was positive in nature and the others negative. (V, 142)

最后这句话"有积极的,也有消极的",表面上看都可以用 复数,但为什么不译作 Some of these were positive in nature and the others negative 呢? 原来下文说得很清楚, "比如民国元年的〈中华民国临时约法〉, 在那个时期是一个比较好的东西, ……其余的几个宪法和宪法草案, 整个说来都是反动的。"

"有人说……"这样的句子,一般按复数处理,译作 some say, 或者 some people say但有时可以这样不点名地指某个具体的人。这时便只能译作 someone said了。

例17.如果不是对于人民的敌人,而是对于人民自己,那末, "杂文时代"的鲁迅,也不曾嘲笑和攻击革命人民和革命政党,杂文的写法也和对于敌人的完全两样。(Ⅱ,829)

When dealing with the people and not with their enemies, Lu Hsun never ridiculed or attacked the revolutionary people and the revolutionary Party in his "satirical essay period", and these essays were entirely different in manner from those directed against the enemy. (III, 92)

例18. ……向我们举行武装进攻的反动的政府和政党, ……(I, 750)

... the reactionary government and political party which were launching armed attacks on us (III, 14)

为什么例17中的"革命政党"在一九五六年发表的译文中是 the revolutionary parties,而在一九六五年发表的译文中却是 the revolutionary Party,为什么例18中的"政党"译为 political party,两者都用单数而不用复数呢?就是因为这里的"革命政党"指的就是中国共产党,"反动政党"指的就是国民党。

例19. 同志们,我们的大会闭幕之后,我们就要上战场去,根据大会的决议,为着最后地打败日本侵略者和建设新中

国而奋斗。(Ⅰ,998)

Comrades! When this congress is over, we shall go to the front and, guided by its *resolutions*, fight to bring about the final defeat of the Japanese aggressors and to build a new China. (III, 267)

例20. 七届二中全会的决议早已讲清楚了:"必须全心全意地依靠工人阶级"。(Y,92)

The resolution of the Second Plenary Session of the Seventh Central Committee made it clear long ago: "We must wholeheartedly rely on the working class." (V, 105)

例20中的"决议"一词译为单数,因为七届二中全会只通过了一个决议。

例21. 我们要保持过去革命战争时期的那么一股劲,那么一股革命热情,那么一种拼命精神,把革命工作做到底。(V,420)

We should maintain the same vigour, the same revolutionary enthusiasm and the same death-defying spirit we displayed in the years of the revolutionary wars and carry out revolutionary work through to the end. (V, 437)

这句话在一九七五年发表时,"革命战争时期"译为 in the years of revolutionary war. 一九七七年发表的五卷英译本译为 in the years of the revolutionary wars. 大概是因为这里的"革命战争"是具体地指第一次国内革命战争、土地革命战争、抗日战争、解放战争等历次革命战争。

参照以上情况,在英译汉时,一般不需要设法把名词的复数形式译出来。

1912. At the same time there has been a notable expan-

sion of trade and of cultural exchanges. (Speech by Mr. Edward Heath)

同时,贸易和文化交往有了显著的扩大。

但有时复数形式如果完全不处理,会产生误解。遇到这种情况,当然要加字,把话说清楚。

M23. I am sure that both the governments and the peoples of Eurpoe believe that friendship and co-operation with China is an essential part of our future work. (ibid.)

我深信,欧洲各国政府和人民都认为同中国友好合作是我们今后工作中一个必不可少的组成部分。

练 . 习 8

将下列各句译成英语:

- 1.无论工厂、农村、军队、学校的革命事业,没有青年就不能胜利。
- 2.现在要保证大家身体好,保证工人、农民、战士、学生、干部都要身体好。
- 3. 天上的空气, 地上的森林, 地下的宝藏, 都是建设社会 主义所需要的重要因素。
- 4.不打无准备的仗,不打无把握的仗。这是我党在过去革命战争时期的著名口号。

9 以什么做主语

汉语一个句子以某词为主语,译成英语是否也一定以这个词为主语呢?不然。

一、主语怎样和谓语搭配

主语是谓语述说的对象。谓语对主语加以述说。因此主语 和谓语必须搭配。某一个主语和某一个谓语搭配,有时在汉语 可以,在英语也可以,有时在汉语可以,在英语就不行。

例1. 我们的解放战争,主要就是靠这一亿六千万人民打胜的。(《毛泽东选集》第五卷,第21页,简称 V,21。下同)

We won the War of Liberation by relying mainly on these 160 million people. (V, 33)

例2. 我国的艰巨的社会主义建设事业, 需要尽可能多的知识分子为它服务。(V, 384)

China needs the services of as many intellectuals as possible for the colossal task of building socialism. (V, 404)

例3. 任何新生事物的成长都是要经过艰难断折的。 (V, 379)

New things always have to experience difficulties and setbacks as they grow. (V, 400)

例4. 青年团的工作,要照顾多数,同时注意先进青年。 (V, 86)

In its work the Youth League must make allowance for the majority of its members and at the same time pay attention to the advanced ones. (V, 98)

例5. 各国人民的正义斗争都是互相支持的。(五届人大一次会议文件)

The people of the world support each other in their just struggles.

例1的原文以"解放战争"为主语,译文却以 we 为主语。 因为英语可以说 to win a war, 但不能说 the war wins. 当然 英语可以用被动语态 the war was won, 这里为什么不用呢? 这大概是因为上下文的关系,前面一句主语是 we,此处也以 we 为主语, 比较顺。 例 5 是一个很常见的句子。偶尔也见到 这样的译文: The just struggles of the people of the world support each other. 且不说主语太长,头重脚轻,让 struggles 来 support each other, 也不符合英语的用法。这五个例子还 有一个共同点,即原文以比较抽象的词"战争"、"事业"、 "成长"、"工作"、"斗争"作主语,译文则以比较具体的 词 we, China, new things, the Youth League, the people of the world 作主语,而这些词在原文里是作定语的。当然不能 由此得出结论,汉语多以抽象的词做主语,英语多以具体的词 做主语。因为英语以抽象的词做主语的情况要比汉语多得多。 归根结蒂还是一个主语和谓语搭配的问题。英语有些搭配,在 汉语里也是行不通的。

例6. 但是,如果帝国主义一定要发动战争,我们也不要害怕。(Ÿ,398)

But if the imperialists insist on unleashing another war, we should not be afraid of it. (V, 417)

例7. 一九三一年至一九三四年的"左"倾机会主义,也不相信"围剿"反复这一规律。(I,179)

Likewise the "Left" opportunists of 1931-34 did not believe in the law of the repetition of "encirclement and suppression" campaigns. (I, 203)

例8. 因为教条主义容易装出马克思主义的面孔, 吓唬工农干部, 把他们俘虏起来, 充作自己的用人, 而工农干部不易识破他们; 也可以吓唬天真烂漫的青年, 把他们充当俘虏。(1,777)

For dogmatists can easily assume a Marxist guise to bluff, capture and make servitors of cadres of working-class and peasant origin who cannot easily see through them; they can also bluff and ensuare the naive youth. (III, 42)

这几个例子说明,在汉语里,一个"主义",一条"路线",可以做具体的事情,后面可以跟比较具体的动词。英语则要求把这样的主语变成具体的人,和动词搭配起来才比较顺。

在这里顺便谈一谈是使用同一个主语,还是使用不同主语的问题。

例9. 这并不是什么新发明,老早就有了的,马克思主义 历来就是这么讲的。(V, 86)

This is nothing new but something of long standing and has always been a tenet of Marxism. (V, 98)

例10. 乡里消息传到城里来,城里的绅士立刻大哗。 (I,15)

When the news from the countryside reached the cities, it caused immediate uproar among the gentry. (I, 26)

例11.到一九五七年,国营农场将达到三千零三十八个,耕地面积将达到一千六百八十七万亩。(V, 171)

By 1957 we shall have 3,038 state farms cultivating 16,870,000 mou of land. (V, 187)

例12. 有人说, "'左'比右好", 许多同志都这么说。 (V, 152)

Some people say, "It is better to be on the 'Left' than on the Right," a remark repeated by many comrades. (V, 167)

这四个例子,原文前半句和后半句主语不同,各有各的主语,而译文则用一个主语管全句。看来,汉语的复句,即使很短,也可以用不同的主语。英语则不然,如果也象汉语那样变换主语,有时就会觉得不顾了。例10那句话,在一九五四年发表的译文是 When news about the countryside reached the cities, the gentry there immediately burst into an uproar. 一九六四年发表的译文,后半句用 it 做主语,就与前半句的主语一致了。

二、主语和表语能不能对换

由主语和表语构成的句子,翻译成英语时,在大多数情况下,还是以原来的主语为主语,以原来的表语为表语。但有时将主语和表语对换,即以原来的表语为主语,以原来的主语为表语。

例13. 我们的政治路线的重要一部分就是武装斗争。(Ⅰ, 573)

Armed struggle is an important component of our political line. (II, 291)

例14. 学习我们的历史遗产,用马克思主义的方法给以批判的总结,是我们学习的另一任务。(I, 499)

Another of our tasks is to study our historical heritage and use the Marxist method to sum it up critically. (II, 209)

- 例15. 辩证法的基本观点就是对立面的统一。(V, 496)
 The unity of opposites is the fundamental concept of dialectics. (V, 514)
- 例16. 帝国主义给自己准备了灭亡的条件。殖民地半殖民地的人民大众和帝国主义自己国家内的人民大众的党悟,就是这样的条件。(N1372)

Imperialism has prepared the conditions for its own doom. These conditions are the awakening of the great masses of the people in the colonies and semi-colonies and in the imperialist countries themselves. (N 425)

下面例17到例20各有两个译文。第一个是五十年代发表的,译文照中文的顺序不变。第二个是六十年代发表的,译文将原文中的表语提前做主语,将原来的主语做表语。

例17. 文艺界的主要的斗争方法之一,是文艺批评。 (II, 824)

- One of the principal methods of struggle in the artistic and literary sphere is art and literature criticism. (1956 ed.)
- 2) Literary and art criticism is one of the principal methods of struggle in the world of literature and art. (III, 88)
- 例18. 革命的中心任务和最高形式是武装夺取政权,是战争解决问题。(Ⅰ,506)
- 1) The central task and the highest form of a revolution is to seize political power by armed force, to settle problems by war. (1954 ed.)
- 2) The seizure of power by armed force, the settlement of the issue by war, is the central task and the highest form of

revolution. (II, 219)

例19. 只有千百万人民的革命实践,才是检验真理的尺度。(I,623)

- 1) Only the revolutionary practice of millions upon millions of the people is the yard-stick for measuring truth. (1954 ed.)
- 2) The only yardstick of truth is the revolutionary practice of millions of people. (II, 339-340)

例20. 无产阶级的坚固的同盟者是农民。(Ⅰ,570)

- 1) The firm ally of the proletariat is the peasantry. (1954 ed.)
- 2) The peasantry is the firm ally of the proletariat. (II, 289)

例21. 农民是无产阶级最主要的同盟军。(V, 306)

The peasants are the chief ally of the proletariat. (V, 325)

最后这两个例子可能给我们一点启发。例20上下文都是对各阶级的分析,这句话说到"农民",看来"农民"是这句话的重点。一九五四年发表的译文照中文的顺序,以 the peasantry为表语。一九六四年发表的译文,就以 the peasantry 做主语了。例21原文就是以"农民"为主语的,译文(一九七七年发表)也以 the peasants 为主语,主语和表语没有对换。看来,主语和表语是否对换,主要看两个因素。一个因素是,从上下文看,这句话的重点是什么。为了强调,英语一般以着重说明的对象做主语。另一个因素是,长短如何。汉语可以将比较短、比较具体的词或词组做主语,也可以将它做表语。而译文却往往将这样的词或词组做主语。大概这样更符合英语的

习惯: 短的在前,长的在后。英语有些谚语也是这样。如: Failure is the mother of success.

Brevity is the soul of wit.

主语都很短,把主要要说的话放在句首,一下子就抓住了读者的注意力。美国哈佛大学教授 John King Fairbank 所著 The United States and China 一书中有这样一句话:

We, not they, have been the most expansive power of recent times.

这句话如果译成汉语,恐怕也需要把主语和表语颠倒一下,译 为:近代最富有扩张性的国家是我们,而不是他们。

三、没有主语怎么办

没有主语的句子,在汉语里相当普遍。有时前面一句话里用了主语,后面几句话可以省略主语,意思仍很清楚,不会引起误解。有时一句话可以根本不要主语。英语则不同。一般总是要有主语的。因此,在翻译的时候,就需要给这种没有主语的句子找适当的主语。到哪里去找呢?

首先,是到前面一句话里去找。

例22. 自然科学方面,我们比较落后,特别要努力向外国学习。但是也要有批判地学,不可盲目地学。(Y, 286)

In the natural sciences we are rather backward, and here we should make a special effort to learn from foreign countries. And yet we must learn critically, not blindly. (V, '304-305)

例28. 第一,我国过去是殖民地、半殖民地,不是帝国主义,历来受人欺负。工农业不发达,科学技术水平低,除了地大物博,人口众多,历史悠久,以及在文学上有部《红楼梦》等等以外,很多地方不如人家、骄傲不起来。(V,287)

First, in the past China was a colonial and semi-colonial

country, not an imperialist power, and was always bullied by others. Its industry and agriculture are not developed and its scientific and technological level is low, and except for its vast territory, rich resources, large population, long history, The Dream of the Red Chamber in literature, and so on, China is inferior to other countries in many respects, and so has no reason to feel conceited. (V, 305)

第二,采用被动式,以原来的宾语做主语。

例24. 必须认真地做好建社以前的准备工作。(V, 175) Before co-operatives are set up, preparatory work must be done seriously and well. (V, 190)

例25. 经过延安整风,着重调查研究,从实际出发,才把 这个问题搞清楚。(V, 297)

The problem was not straightened out until the rectification movement in Yenan, which laid stress on investigation and study and a realistic approach. (V, 316)

第三,用不定代词,或用"It is ... to ...","There is ..." 等结构。

例26. 要有把握,就要有准备,而且要有充分的准备。 (Y, 175)

To be sure of success, one must be prepared, and what is more, fully prepared. (V, 190)

例27、究竟能不能巩固呢? (V , 172)

Is it possible to consolidate them? (V, 188)

例28. 总之,是两点而不是一点。(V, 285)

In short, there are two aspects, not just one. (V, 303)

例29. 真正了解,才能相信。(V , 87)

Trust comes out of real understanding. (V, 99)

有一种情况值得注意。通常如果下一个动词没有主语,我们的理解是它跟上一个动词的主语相同。但是实际上不完全如此。第二个动词前省略的主语,有时并不是前面一个动词的主语,换言之,前面一个动词的主语管不到后面这个动词。翻译时只好在后半句再找一个适当的词做主语。

例30. 青年人和成年人不同,女青年和男青年也不同,不 照顾这些特点,就会脱离群众。(V,86)

Young people are different from adults and so are young women from young men. Disregard these characteristics and you will alienate yourselves from the masses. (V, 98)

例31. 七届二中全会以来,我们党领导的新民主主义革命 在全国范围内取得了胜利,成立了中华人民共和国。(V,21)

Since the Second Plenary Session of the Party's Seventh Central Committee, nation-wide victory has been won in the new-democratic revolution led by our Party, and the People's Republic of China has been founded. (V, 33)

练 习 9

翻译下列各句时以什么做主语?

- 1.中国革命的胜利,是继俄国十月革命之后国际无产阶级 革命运动历史上最重大的事件,也是第二次世界大战之后世界 政治中最重大的事件。
 - 2.我们各方面的工作都获得了伟大的胜利。
 - 3. 民主的原意就是多数人的统治。
- 4.我们在全国人民中进行了大规模的持久的马列主义、 毛泽东思想的教育,人民的政治觉悟有了很大的提高。

- 5.福特先生一九七二年六月就曾作为众议院共和党领袖偕 夫人来过我国,中国人民是熟悉的。
- 6.这件事感动了上帝,他就派了两个神仙下凡,把两座山背走了。
- 7. 目前我们在经济上组织群众的最重要形式,就是合作 社。

1 并列抑是主从

在一个汉语句子的谓语部分,往往有一连串并列的动词。 但是译成英语,就不一定用一连串并列的动词了。通常可以看 到以下两种处理办法。

第一种办法是译成非限定动词(non-finite verbs). 汉语动词只有一种形式,没有词形变化。因此显得汉语句子里动词比英语用得多。而且不论这些动词在意思上是否有层次之分,往往都是以并列的形式出现。英语则不同,英语动词有所谓非限定动词,包括分词(participle),动名词(gerund)和动词不定式(infinitive). 这些非限定动词可以细微地表现出意思的层次,在翻译过程中可以很好地加以利用。

例1. 我们党已经胜利地领导了一个伟大的人民民主革命,建立了以工人阶级为首的人民民主专政,也就一定能够领导全国人民,在大约三个五年计划的时期内,基本上完成社会主义工业化和对于农业、手工业、资本主义工商业的社会主义改造。(《毛泽东选集》第五卷,第173页,简称 V , 173。下同)

Having led the great people's democratic revolution to victory and established the people's democratic dictatorship headed by the working class, our Party can certainly lead the whole nation in basically accomplishing socialist industrialization and the socialist transformation of agriculture, handicrafts and capitalist industry and commerce in the course

of roughly three five-year plans. (V, 188)

例2. 他们患得患失,生怕失掉这些东西。(V, 302) Swayed by considerations of loss and gain, they are most anxious not to lose these possessions. (V, 320)

例3. 另外一些人可以在工厂农村里住几个月,在那里作调查,交朋友,这叫"下马看花"。(V,408)

Others can stay for a few months, conducting investigations and making friends; this may be called "dismounting to look at the flowers". (V, 426)

例4. 彻底的唯物主义者是无所畏惧的,我们希望一切同我们共同奋斗的人能够勇敢地负起责任,克服困难,不要怕挫折,不要怕有人议论讥笑,也不要怕向我们共产党人提批评建议。(V,412)

Thoroughgoing materialists are fearless; we hope that all our fellow fighters will courageously shoulder their responsibilities and overcome all difficulties, fearing no setbacks or gibes, nor hesitating to criticize us Communists and give us their suggestions. (V, 429)

例5. 到一九五五年六月为止,经过初步整理之后,缩减了两万个社,留下了六十五万个社,较计划数字超过了五万个社。(V,171)

By June 1955, after a preliminary readjustment, it was cut by 20,000, *leaving* 650,000, or 50,000 more than the planned target. (V, 186-187)

例6. 尼克松总统及其一行访问了北京,参观了文化、工业和农业项目,还访问了杭州和上海,在那里继续同中国领导人进行讨论,并参观了类似的项目。(《中美联合公报》)

President Nixon and his party visited Peking and viewed cultural, industrial and agricultural sites, and they also toured Hangchow and Shanghai where, continuing discussions with Chinese leaders, they viewed similar places of interest. (Sino-U.S. Joint Communique)

这几个例子,从结构上看汉语用的是并列动词。但从意思上看却不是并列的。例1的"已经胜利地领导了……"和例2的"患得患失"是原因,例 3 的"作调查,交朋友"和例 4 的"不要怕……"是作进一步的解释,例 5 的"留下了六十五万个社"是结果。例 6 这段话主要是讲参观访问,前面有一段话专门讲了会谈的问题,因此这句话里的"继续……进行讨论"不是主要的,而是次要的。要表达这些不同的含义,使用分词是很恰当的。译文突出了主要的动词,有主有次。

例7. 我们用自己动手的方法,达到了半衣足食的目的。 (Ⅱ,883)

By using our own hands we have attained the objective of "ample food and clothing". (III, 154)

例8. 这些都应该向他们去进行教育,加以纠正,而不是简单地去进行斥责。(Y,169)

These mistakes should be corrected by educating the cadres and peasants and not by simply dressing them down. (V, 185)

例9. 国际争端应在此基础上予以解决,而不诉诸武力和 武力威胁。(《中美联合公报》)

International disputes should be settled on this basis, without resorting to the use or threat of force. (Sino-U.S. Joint Communique)

这三个例子, 把主要要做的事译成动词, 而把完成任务所

使用的手段译成动名词,和介词一起构成介词短语,作状语。

例10. 我们应该走到群众中间去,向群众学习,把他们的 经验综合起来,成为更好的有条理的道理和办法,然后再告诉 群众(宣传),并号召群众实行起来,解决群众的问题,使群 众得到解放和幸福。(I,887)

We should go to the masses and learn from them, synthesize their experience into better, articulated principles and methods, then do propaganda among the masses, and call upon them to put these principles and methods into practice so as to solve their problems and help them achieve liberation and happiness. (III, 158)

这个例子共有七个动词。译文把前五个并列作为手段,后两个并列作为目的,前后用 so as to 连起来。这样长的句子,目的放在句末,经过 so as to 一加强,还是很有分量的。

第二种办法是译成名词。英语有大量的抽象名词,其中一部分是从动词派生而来的。因此显得英语句子里名词比汉语用得多。汉语使用动词的地方,英语往往译成名词。在汉语有并列动词出现的时候,译文可以把一个主要的译作动词,其余的译作名词,和介词一起构成介词短语,作状语。

例11. 在有些地方,他们在工作中犯了一些错误,例如: 一方面排斥貧农入社,不照顾貧农的困难;另一方面又强迫富裕中农入社,侵犯他们的利益。(V,168—169)

In some places they have made certain mistakes in their work; for example, poor peasants have been barred from the co-operatives in disregard of their difficulties, while well-to-do middle peasants have been forced into the co-operatives in violation of their interests. (V, 184-185)

例12. 必须强调注重合作社的质量,反对不 顾 质量、专门追求合作社和农户的数目字的那一种偏向。(V, 173)

We must put emphasis on the quality of the co-operatives and oppose any tendency to concentrate solely on increasing their number and membership to the neglect of their quality. (V, 189)

例13. 所有二流子都要受到改造,参加生产,变成好人。 (II, 886)

All loafers must be reformed into good citizens through participation in production. (III, 157)

有时一个汉语句子里可以包含几个并列的分句,译成英语,也不一定保持原来的结构,而要根据内容的重要性分为主要的和次要的,将原文的并列关系变为主从关系。这一变化还有两种不同的情况,一种情况是保持原来的分句,只是加了连词,使原来的并列分句变成了从句。这种情况在第六章中已举例说明。还有一种情况是把次要的分句变成各种短语。请看下面的例子。

例14. 过去,在民主革命中,我们受主观主义的害时间很长,受了很大的惩罚,根据地差不多丧失干净,革命力量丧失百分之九十以上,一直到这个时候我们才开始觉悟。(Y,297)

In the course of the democratic revolution we were plagued by subjectivism for a long time and we paid dearly for it, *losing* practically all our base areas and over 90 per cent of our revolutionary forces, and it was only then that we began to come to our senses. (V, 316)

例15. 我们的机关学校,今年也大进了一步,向政府领款 只占经费的一小部分,由自己生产解决的占了绝大部分; ……

(I, 883)

Our organizations and schools have also taken a big step forward this year. Only a small part of their expenditure has come from the government, most of it being covered by their own production; (III, 154)

例18. 在农民群众方面,几千年来都是个体经济,一家一户就是一个生产单位,……(II,885)

Among the peasant masses a system of individual economy has prevailed for thousands of years, with each family or household *forming* a productive unit. (III, 156)

例17. 几个月来, 土豪劣绅倒了, 没有了论棍。(I, 30) In the last few months, with the downfall of the local tyrants and evil gentry, all the legal pettifoggers have disappeared. (I, 43)

例18. 战争一关,已经基本上过去了,这一关我们大家都过得很好,全国人民是满意的。(V,27)

The test of war is basically over, and we have all come through well, to the satisfaction of the people of the whole country. (V, 38)

这里采取的也是处理并列动词的两种办法,一是译成非限 定动词,一是译成名词。

是不是遇到并列动词或并列分句,都要设法把并列关系变成主从关系呢?否。变不变主要还是看原文的意思是否真是并列的。如果原文真是并列的,没有层次可分,译文也要保持并列关系。

例19. 正确的态度应当是,对于犯错误的同志,采取"惩 前毖后,治病教人"的方针,帮助他们改正错误,允许他们继 续革命。(V, 283)

The correct attitude towards them should be to adopt a policy of "learning from past mistakes to avoid future ones and curing the sickness to save the patient", help them correct their mistakes and allow them to go on taking part in the revolution. (V, 301)

例20. 人们总是根据自己的经验来观察问题,处理问题,发表意见,有时候就难免带上一些片面性。(V,413)

People always examine and handle problems and express their views in the light of their own experience, and unavoidably they sometimes show a little one-sidedness. (V, 430)

例21、大家多研究,多商量,打通思想,整齐步伐,组成一条伟大的反封建统一战线,就可以领导人民和帮助人民顺利地通过这一关。(V,27)

Let us give this matter more thought, have more consultation, straighten out our thinking, march in step and form a great anti-feudal united front, and then we shall be able to lead the people and help them pass this test successfully. (V, 39)

例22、共产党是不怕批评的,因为我们是马克思主义者, 真理是在我们方面,工农基本群众是在我们方面。(V,411)

The Communist Party does not fear criticism because we are Marxists, the truth is on our side, and the basic masses, the workers and peasants, are on our side. (V. 428)

例28. 如果我们把作风整顿好了,我们在工作中间就会更加主动,我们的本事就会更大,工作就会做得更好。(V,411)

When we have rectified our way of thinking and style of work, we shall enjoy greater initiative in our work, become

more capable and do a better job. (V, 428-429)

下面四个例子,每一例都有两个译文,反映了译者对同一 句话有不同的理解。

- **例24**. 在和反共顽固派斗争时,是利用矛盾,争取多数, 反对少数,各个击破; ……(I, 721)
- 1) In the struggle against the anti-Communist die-hards, we must *take* advantage of their contradictions *in order to* win over the majority, oppose the minority and crush the enemies separately; ... (1954 ed.)
- 2) In the struggle against the anti-Communist diehards, our policy is to make use of contradictions, win over the many, oppose the few and crush our enemies one by one, . . . (II, 442)
- **例25**. 发展经济,保障供给,是我们的经济工作和财政工作的总方针。(Ⅰ,846)
- 1) To secure supplies through economic development is the main aim guiding our economic and financial work. (1956 ed.)
- 2) The general policy guiding our economic and financial work is to develop the economy and ensure supplies. (III, 111)
- 例26. 不是将政治纲领背诵给老百姓听,这样的背诵是没有人听的;要联系战争发展的情况,联系士兵和老百姓的生活,把战争的政治动员,变成经常的运动。(Ⅰ,449)
- 1) Our job is not merely to recite our political programme to the people, for nobody would care to listen to such recitations; but we must link it up with the development in the war and with the life of the soldiers and the people, thereby transforming the political mobilisation for the war into a

regular movement. (1954 ed.)

- 2) Our job is not to recite our political programme to the people, for nobody will listen to such recitations; we must link the political mobilization for the war with developments in the war and with the life of the soldiers and the people, and make it a continuous movement. (II, 155)
- **例27**. ……此时游击队又可于追击敌人时继续袭击,再行削弱他。(I,398)
- 1) ... by then the guerrillas may spring more surprise attacks during their pursuit of the enemy so as to weaken him further. (1954 ed.)
- 2) ... the guerrilla units can then make more surprise attacks during the pursuit and weaken him still further. (II, 104)

这四个例子,第一个译文是五十年代发表的,第二个译文是六十年代发表的。比较一下就可以看出,五十年代的译文都是主从关系,而六十年代的译文都是并列关系。例26讲的是并列的三件事,第三件并不是做前两件事的结果,因此译为 thereby transforming 恐不妥。例27起初译作 so as to weaken him further,后来译作 and weaken him still further。这个 and 表面上是并列连词,实际上它可以表达各种不同的含义。在这里它就可以表示后面一个动作是前面一个动作的结果。关于 and 的这种用法,A Grammar of Contemporary English 也曾提到。"The second clause is a consequence or result of the first."①因此例27中,一九六五年发表的译文不但在意义上而且在形式上都是符合原文的。

① A Grammar of Contemporary English, (London, 1973,) p.561.

根据以上情况,在英译汉时,多用动词,多用并列动词(和英语相对而言),是符合汉语的习惯的。

M28. Countries should treat each other with mutual respect and be willing to compete peacefully, *letting* performance be the ultimate judge. (Sino-U.S. Joint Communique)

各国应该互相尊重并愿进行和平竞赛, 让行动作出最后判断。(《中美联合公报》)

files. Their first job was to educate the NSC about their novel approach to international problems. (Marvin Kalb and Bernard Kalb, Kissinger)

尼克松和基辛格的第一件工作, 便是教育国家安全委员会, 使之领会他们对国际问题的新精神。

练 习 10

- 1. 将下列句子译成英语:
- 1.今天,我们在这里隆重集会,庆祝中华人民共和国成立 三十周年。
- 2.我们的伟大祖国昂首挺立于世界民族之林,愈来愈成为 世界上任何人都不能忽视的巨大力量。
- 3.一定要努力增加生产,历行节约,扫除浪费,提高效率,革新技术,不断挖掘新的生产潜力,开辟新的生产门路,增加新的社会财富。
 - 11. 下列句子的译文有何问题? 怎样改进?
 - 4.灵活不是妄动,妄动是应该拒绝的。

Flexibility does not mean headlong action, which must be prevented.

5. 这是困难的事,但这是必须执行的确定的政策。

This is a difficult matter, but it is also a determined policy that must be put into effect.

11 定语放在何处

定语的位置,在汉语里通常是在名词之前,即使连用几个定语,也都是放在前面。英语则不然。在英语里,一般只将单个的词放在名词之前作定语,词组和从句都是放在名词之后。现在有一种趋势,把词组也放在名词之前作定语。一九七七年出版的美国记者 C.L. Sulzberger 所著 Seven Continents and Forty Years —书中就有这样的话。 the People's Daily circulation (《人民日报》的发行量), the large apartment house compound (公寓大院),等等。这就和汉语的顺序接近了。但这终究是少数,大部分定语还是放在名词后面。

例1. 正义的事业(《毛泽东选集》第五卷,第133页,简称 V,133。下同)

a just cause (V, 149)

例2. ……这是世界历史上的新创造。(叶剑英:《在庆祝中华人民共和国成立三十周年大会上的讲话》)

It was something quite new in world history

例3、中华人民共和国的三十年是光荣伟大的三十年,是中国人民同国内外敌对势力进行复杂斗争的三十年,是经历了曲折道路而取得社会主义革命和社会主义建设巨大胜利的三十年。(同上)

The past thirty years of the People's Republic of China have been glorious years, years of complicated struggle waged by the Chinese people against antagonistic forces both domestic and foreign, and years of tremendous victories in socialist revolution and socialist construction won despite twists and turns along the way.

例4. 农林校副渔布局合理、全面发展、能够满足人民生活和工业发展需要的发达的农业(同上)

a developed agricultural system with a rational distribution and all-round development of farming, forestry, animal husbandry, side-line occupations and fisheries meeting the needs of the people and of an expanding industry

例5. 门类齐全、结构合理、能够满足社会消费和整个国 民经济发展需要的先进的工业(同上)

an advanced industrial system which is complete in range and rational in structure and which meets the needs of consumers and the expansion of the whole economy

例6. 为社会主义事业作出优异成绩的已去世的各条战线上的领导者和先进人物(同上)

the deceased leaders and outstanding people on all fronts who made brilliant contributions to the socialist cause

最后三个例子各有许多定语,但都只将由一个单词构成的 定语放在名词之前,其余的均放在名词之后。

有时英译文也可以把一系列定语放在名词之前,但即使在 这种情况下,译文中定语的顺序也和原文不同。

例7. 政治本色(V, 329)

intrinsic political quality (V, 349)

例8. 极其光荣伟大的事业(V,133)

a great and most glorious cause (V, 149)

例9. 社会主义的现代化强国(五届入大一次会议文件)

a modern, powerful socialist country

例10、强大的社会主义工业国(V, 312)

a powerful industrial socialist country (V, 330)

- 例11. ……作出了马克思主义的符合客观实际的新论断、新决策。(叶剑英:《在庆祝中华人民共和国成立三十周年大会上的讲话》)
- ... in the light of objective reality, it has worked out new Marxist theses and decisions . . .
- 例12. 实践是检验真理的唯一标准这个马克思主义认识论 的不可动摇的基本原则(同上)

the unshakable, fundamental Marxist epistemological tenet that practice is the sole criterion of truth

例13、国际经济新秩序(同上)

a new international economic order

例14. ……我们同林彪、"四人帮"斗争的胜利,是我们党和国家发展史上具有决定意义的不可逆转的伟大历史性胜利。 (同上)

... our victory in the struggle against Lin Biao and the gang is a historic victory—an irreversible and decisive victory—in the development of our Party and country.

从这几个例子看来,在汉语中,越能说明事物本质的定语 (如例9和例10中的"社会主义",例11和例12中的"马克思 主义")越要放在前头,说明规模大小或力量强弱的定语放在 后头。英语则相反,越能说明事物本质的定语越要靠近它所修 饰的名词。

例13中的"国际经济新秩序"一词,本是从外文译成中文的。有两个译法,除了上面的译法外,还译作"新的国际经济秩

序"。我觉得还是"国际经济新秩序"比较合乎汉语的习惯说法。

例14处理得非常巧妙。汉语连用四个非常有力的定语,意在强调。如照样译为 decisive, irreversible, great, historic victory则没有力量。译文将"伟大"略去,其余三个定语分为两段,用破折号隔开,原文的力量就充分表达出来了。

翻译定语还经常遇到一个问题: 修饰什么? 这是一个对原文的理解问题。如果理解不正确,就肯定不能把这个定语放到恰当的位置上。

例15. 目前抗日统一战线中的策略问题(Ⅰ, 702)

Current Problems of Tactics in the Anti-Japanese United Front (II, 421)

例16. 河北、察哈尔、热河、山西的大部(N, 1027) the provinces of Hopei, Chahar and Jehol, most of Shansi (IV, 17)

例17. 减免部分经济条件较差的地区的农业税收和社队企业税收(五届人大二次会议文件)

reduce or remit the agricultural tax in places where economic conditions are poor and the tax on enterprises run by communes, production brigades and production teams

例18. 签订了长期贸易协定和文化科学技术合作协定(同上)

signed a number of agreements on long-term trade and on cultural, scientific and technological co-operation

这几个例子,汉语可以作不同的解释。例15可能被误解为"目前"一词修饰"抗日统一战线"。一九五四年发表的译本,就把这个题目误译作 Questions of Tactics in the Present

Anti-Japanese United Front. 例16不是四省的大部,而只是山西的大部。例17"部分经济条件较差的地区"只修饰"农业税收",而不修饰"社队企业税收",因为为了鼓励发展社队企业,不论其所在地区的经济条件如何,一律实行减免税收的政策。例18"长期"只修饰"贸易协定",而不修饰"文化科学技术合作协定"。由此可见,定语修饰什么,是一个需要十分小心对待的问题。

英译汉也会遇到同样的问题。一个 of-phrase, 前面如果有一连串的名词, 往往会误以为这个 of-phrase 只修饰最后一个名词, 而忽略了前面的名词。

19. to recognize the underlying and accepted principles and objectives of the United Nations Charter

这个例子起初译为"承认公认的原则和联合国宪章的目标",后来改为"承认联合国宪章中公认的基本原则和目标"。

M20 the United Nations, the only bastion of hope, security and the aspirations of peoples everywhere

这个例子起初译为"联合国这个唯一体现希望、安全和各国人民的理想的堡垒",后来改为"联合国这个唯一体现各国人民的希望、安全和理想的堡垒"。

练 习 11

将下例词组译成英语时,定语怎样安排?

- 1.进一步发展我国的安定团结、生动活泼的政治局面
- 2,开展群众性的社会主义劳动竞赛和合理化建议运动
- 3. 光荣伟大的三十年
- 4. 无产阶级领导的,人民大众的,反对帝国主义、封建主义和官僚资本主义的革命

12 状语放在何处

状语的位置,在汉语里通常是在主语之后、谓语之前。为了强调,也可以放在主语之前。英语则不然。一个单词构成的 状语比较好办,可以根据需要放在句首、动词之前、助动词和 动词之间,或者放在句末。较长的状语则往往不是放在句首, 就是放在句末,放在句中的较少。

例1. 这个规律,不论在自然界、人类社会和人们的思想中,都是普遍存在的。(《毛泽东选集》第五卷,第372页,简称 V,372。下同)

This law operates universally, whether in the natural world, in human society, or in man's thinking. (V, 392)

例2. 我国有五亿多农业人口,农民的情况如何,对于我国经济的发展和政权的巩固,关系极大。(V,379)

We have a rural population of over 500 million, so how our peasants fare has a most important bearing on the development of our economy and the consolidation of our state power. (V, 399)

例3. 一切事情,农会的人不到场,便不能解决。(I,14)

Nothing can be settled unless someone from the peasant association is present. (1, 25)

例4. 马列主义、毛泽东思想的理论一旦在实际斗争中被群众所真正掌握,就会变成巨大的物质力量。(叶剑英:《在庆

祝中华人民共和国成立三十周年大会上的讲话》)

The theory of Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong Thought becomes a tremendous material force once it is really grasped by the masses through their struggles.

这几个例子, 状语都后移, 放到句末去了。这是英语中最常见的一种现象。有时为了强调, 或者谓语本身已经很长, 在不需要强调主语的情况下, ① 也可以把状语放在句管。

例5. 青年团在党的领导下,积极参加各方面的革命工作,作出了很大成绩。(N,83)

Under the Party's leadership, the Youth League has been active in every field of revolutionary work and has a great deal to its credit. (V, 95)

例6. 人民为了有效地进行生产、进行学习和有秩序地过生活,要求自己的政府、生产的领导者、文化教育机关的领导者发布各种适当的带强制性的行政命令。(Y,368-369)

To be able to carry on their production and studies effectively and to lead their lives in peace and order, the people want their government and those in charge of production and of cultural and educational organizations to issue appropriate administrative regulations of an obligatory nature. (V, 389)

例7。 延安和陕甘宁边区,从一九三六年到一九四八年,

Animals become indifferent to their young as soon as their young can look after themselves, but human beings, owing to the length of infancy, find this difficult. (Bertrand Russell: Portraits from Memory) 后半句的主语 human beings 和前半句的主语 animals 形成鲜明的对限,需要强强,这时便将状语 owing to the length of infancy 放在主语之后了。

① 有时需要强调主语,如下面这个句子:

曾经是中共中央的所在地,曾经是中国人民解放斗争的总后方。(V,12)

From 1936 to 1948 Yenan and the Shehsi-Kansu-Ningsia Border Region were the seat of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and the general rear area of the Chinese people's struggle for liberation. (V, 23)

例8. 列宁在一九二○年在《共产主义运动中的"左派"幼稚病》一书中,描写过俄国人寻找革命理论的经过。(N,1358)

In his book "Left-Wing" Communism, an Infantile Disorder written in 1920, Lenin described the quest of the Russians for revolutionary theory. (IV, 412)

如果有两个状语要放在前边,是否都放在句首呢?不然。 都放在句首,句子会显得头重脚轻。一般是在句首放一个,在 主语后面再放一个。

例9. 我国的六亿人民正在工人阶级和共产党的领导下, 团结一致地进行着伟大的社会主义建设。(Y, 363)

Led by the working class and the Communist Party, our 600 million people, united as one, are engaged in the great task of building socialism. (V, 384)

例10. 遵照毛主席的指示,周总理在第三届和第四届全国 人民代表大会上都提出了发展国民经济的宏伟设想,要求在本 世纪内全面实现四个现代化,使我国国民经济走在世界前列。 (五届入大一次会议文件)

At the Third National People's Congress and again at the Fourth, Premier Chou, acting on Chairman Mao's instructions, put forward a grand concept for the development of our national economy which calls for the all-round modernization of agriculture, industry, national defence and science and technology by the end of the century so that our economy can take its place in the front ranks of the world.

在例10中,原文把"遵照毛主席的指示"这一主要因素放在句首,把次要的时间因素放在主语的后面。而译文却把时间因素放在句首,把 acting on Chairman Mao's instructions 放在动词 put forward 之前,使这一主要因素和"提出"更密切地结合在一起。

如果一个句子有两个状语,也可以把这两个状语分别放在句首和句末。这样处理,主谓宾连在一起,句子比较紧凑。

例11. 我们党在毛泽东同志领导下,经过长期的革命实践特别是延安整风,在全党确立了一条辩证唯物主义的思想路线。(叶剑英:《在庆祝中华人民共和国成立三十周年大会上的讲话》)

Under the leadership of Comrade Mao Zedong, our Party laid down a dialectical materialist ideological line in the course of long revolutionary practice, and particularly through the Yan'an Rectification Movement.

例12、我代表中共中央、人大常委会和国务院,向……致以热烈的节日祝贺! (同上)

On behalf of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress and the State Council, I extend warm festive greetings to

有时状语和动词在英语里不好搭配,也可以增加一个动词, 或把原来由状语表达的意思用动词来表达,甚至以这新增的动 词作主要动词,而把原来句中的主要动词译作动词不定式。

例13. 新中国成立后,我们不停顿地实现了由新民主主义 革命向社会主义革命的伟大转变。(同上)

After the founding of New China, we pressed forward without let-up and completed the great transition from the new-democratic to the socialist revolution.

例14. 总之,我们要千方百计力争国民经济持续地均衡地 高速度地发展。(同上)

In short, we must devise every possible way to secure a sustained, proportionate and high-speed development of the economy.

例15. 全体干部和全国人民,一定要全力以赴、聚精会神、专心致志、争分夺秒地投身到这个伟大的建设事业中来。 (同上)

All cadres and the entire people must go all out and concentrate on this great cause of construction, making the most of every minute and every second.

下面五个例子,各有两个译文。第一个是五十年代发表的译文,状语基本上留在汉语原来的位置上。第二个是六十年代发表的译文,有的状语移至句首,有的状语移至句末。比较一下就可以看出,六十年代发表的译文是比较流畅的。

- 例16. 湖南的农民运动,就湘中、湘南已发达的各县来说,大约分为两个时期。(],13)
- 1) The peasant movement in Hunan, so far as it concerns the counties in the central and southern sections of the province, where the movement is already developed, can be roughly divided into two periods. (1954 ed.)

- 2) The development of the peasant movement in Hunan may be divided roughly into two periods with respect to the counties in the province's central and southern parts where the movement has already made much headway. (I, 24)
- 例17. 原来有中国政权未被敌人破坏的,则在广大民众拥护的基础之上去改造它和巩固它,原来的中国政权已被敌人破坏了的,则在广大民众努力的基础之上去恢复它。(I,393)
- 1) Where the original Chinese organs of political power have not been destroyed by the enemy we must, on the basis of the support of the broad masses, proceed to reform and consolidate them; where the original Chinese organs of political power have been destroyed by the enemy we must, on the basis of the offort of the broad masses, proceed to rebuild them. (1954 ed.)
- 2) Where the original Chinese organs of political power have not been destroyed by the enemy, we must reorganize and strengthen them with the support of the broad masses, and where they have been destroyed by the enemy, we should rebuild them by the efforts of the masses. (II, 99)
- 例18. 中国共产党以自己艰苦奋斗的经历,以几十万英勇党员和几万英勇干部的流血牺牲,在全民族几万万人中间起了伟大的教育作用。(I,168—169)
- 1) The Chinese Communist Party, with its experience in arduous struggles, through the bloodshed and martyrdom of hundreds of thousands of its brave members and tens of thousands of its brave cadres, has played a great educational role among hundreds of millions of the whole nation. (1954 ed.)

- 2) By its arduous struggles and by the martyrdom of hundreds of thousands of its heroic members and tens of thousands of its heroic cadres, the Communist Party of China has played a great educative role among hundreds of millions of people throughout the country. (I, 193)
- 例19. 因此,我们红军的指导者,在既定的客观物质基础即军事,政治、经济、自然诸条件之上,就必须发挥我们的成力,提挈全军,去打倒那些民族的和阶级的敌人,改变这个不好的世界。(【,166)
- 1) We Red Army commanders must, therefore, on a given material basis military, political, economic and natural conditions display our power and lead the whole army to crush the national and class enemies, and to change this evil world. (1954 ed.)
- 2) Therefore, given the objective material foundations, i.e., the military, political, economic and natural conditions, our Red Army commanders must display their provess and marshal all their forces to crush the national and class enemies and to transform this evil world. (I, 191)
- 例20. 但我们相信,已经发动的抗战,必将因为我党和全国人民的努力,冲破一切障碍物而继续地前进和发展。(I,414)
- 1) But we believe that the resistance already started will, through the effort of our Party and of the whole people, definitely break through all obstacles to continue its advance and development. (1954 ed.)
 - 2) But we are confident that, through the efforts of our

Party and the whole people, the resistance already started will sweep aside all obstacles and continue to advance and develop. (II, 121)

练 习 12

将下列句子译成英语时, 状语怎样安排?

- 1. 我们今后必须按照具体的情况,继续解决上述的各种矛盾。
- 2.你们在消灭敌人的斗争中,在恢复和发展工农业生产的 斗争中,克服了很多的艰难困苦,表现了极大的勇敢、智慧和 积极性。
 - 3.报纸工作人员为了教育群众,首先要向群众学习。
 - 4.这个规律,在我国,懂得的人逐渐多起来了。

13 怎样安排句子

汉语和英语在句子内容的安排上有什么不同呢?

如果一个句子里既有叙事的部分,又有表态的部分,在汉语里往往是叙事在前,表态在后,叙事部分可以很长,表态部分一般都很短。在英语里则往往相反,表态在前,叙事在后。

例1. 接到你们的贺函,使我十分愉快和感谢。(《毛泽东选集》第五卷,第12页,简称 V,12。下同)

I am very happy and grateful to receive your message of greetings. (V, 23)

1 welcome the opportunity created for Europe by the election of Monsieur Giscard d'Estaing as President of France and Herr Schmidt as Federal Chancellor of the German Federal Republic. (Speech by Mr. Edward Heath)

吉斯卡尔·德斯坦先生当选法国总统和施密特先生当选德 意志联邦共和国总理,为欧洲创造了机会。对此我表示欢迎。

例3. 在这个时候,我们提出划分敌我和人民内部两类矛盾的界线,提出正确处理人民内部矛盾的问题,以便团结全国各族人民进行一场新的战争——向自然界开战,发展我们的经济,发展我们的文化,使全体人民比较顺利地走过目前的过渡时期,巩固我们的新制度,建设我们的新国家,就是十分必要的了。(V,375)

It is therefore *imperative* for us at this juncture to raise the question of distinguishing contradictions among the people from those between ourselves and the enemy, as well as the question of the correct handling of contradictions among the people, in order to unite the people of all nationalities in our country for the new battle, the battle against nature, develop our economy and culture, help the whole nation to traverse this period of transition relatively smoothly, consolidate our new system and build up our new state. (V, 395-396)

例4. 那种以为只有汉族帮助了少数民族,少数民族没有帮助汉族,以及那种帮助了一点少数民族,就自以为了不起的观点,是错误的。(V,154)

It is wrong to think that only the Hans have helped the minority nationalities while the minority nationalities have not helped the Hans, or to swell with pride over the little help given to the minority nationalities. (V, 169)

例5. 中华人民共和国和美利坚合众国领导人经过这么多年一直没有接触之后,现在有机会坦率地互相介绍彼此对各种问题的观点,对此,双方认为是有益的。(《中美联合公报》)

The leaders of the People's Republic of China and the United States of America found it beneficial to have this opportunity, after so many years without contact, to present candidly to one another their views on a variety of issues. (Sino-U.S. Joint Communique)

例6. 双方同意,扩大两国人民之间的了解是可取的。 (同上)

The two sides agreed that it is desirable to broaden the understanding between the two peoples.

100

前两个例子表示个人的感受或态度,以人称代词做主语。

后面几个例子是对事情本身作出评价,译文用了英语特有的 it is... to... 结构。这是英语中常见的一个结构。使用这个 结构就可以把短的部分放在前面,长的部分放在后面,这是符 合英语句子的特点的。如果一定要把带结论性的话放在后面, 往往要用分号或破折号隔开,或者断句,后面单起一句。请参 阅本书第十四章和第二十章。

在叙述过程的句子里,汉语一般是按事情发展的顺序来叙述。先发生什么事,后发生什么事,结果怎样,也许最后还有作者的简短评论。英语也可以用这样的顺序,但是也往往采取相反的顺序。

Moreover 1 March 1 March 2 Mar

(Speech by Mr. Edward Heath)

我原来打算在今年一月访问中国, 后来我不得不推迟, 这 1 2

使我深感失望。

例8. ……有些人可能是自己回家,或者是接了亲属来, 1

听到富裕中农、富农、地主的那些话, 受了触动, 于是就替农 2 3 4

民叫苦。(V, 336)

Some ... make complaints on behalf of the peasants

because they are affected by the remarks of well-to-do middle

peasants, rich peasants or landlords which they may have

heard on visits to their home town or from relatives invited to stay with them. (V, 356-357)

上面两个例子,把事情发生的先后顺序用1、2、3、4编上号,便会发现汉语的顺序是1→2→3→4,而英语的顺序则是4→3→2→1。为什么会出现这种情况呢?大概是因为英语的定语从句和状语从句都放在后面,而且动词有各种时态,可以表明时间的先后。这样组织的句子是比较紧凑的。如果把例7的原文改变一下,写成 I had intended to pay a visit to China in January but then I had to postpone it; this was a keen disappointment to me, 句子就显得十分松散了。关于这一点,我感觉汉语的句子结构好比一根竹子,一节一节地连下去,而英语的句子结构好比一串葡萄,主干可能很短,累累的果实附着在上面。

说起英语句子结构紧凑,还有一种情况,就是汉语里一个 有主语有谓语可以独立的分句,译成英语可能就变成了一个名 词词组。

例9. 农民在乡里造反,提动了绅士们的酣梦。(I,15) The peasants' revolt disturbed the gentry's sweet dreams. (I, 26)

例10. 矛盾不断出现,又不断解决,就是事物发展的辩证规律。(V,375)

The ceaseless emergence and ceaseless resolution of contradictions constitute the dialectical law of the development of things. (V, 395)

例11、有些人认为可以提早消灭资本主义实行社会主义, 102 这种思想是错误的,是不适合我们国家的情况的。(V,19)

The view held by certain people that it is possible to eliminate capitalism and realize socialism at an early date is wrong, it does not tally with our national conditions. (V, 30)

例12.一九三七年九月二十二日,中国共产党中央委员会发表宣言,承认"孙中山先生的三民主义为中国今日之必常,本党愿为其彻底实现而奋斗",这一宣言,在中国解放区是完全实践了。(E, 946)

The declaration issued by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on September 22, 1937 affirming that "Dr. Sun Yat-sen's Three People's Principles being what China needs today, our Party is ready to fight for their complete realization", has been completely carried into effect in China's Liberated Areas. (III, 220)

例18.专政还有第二个作用,就是防御国家外部敌人的颠复活动和可能的侵略。(V,366)

The second function of this dictatorship is to protect our country from subversion and possible aggression by external enemies. (V, 387)

例14.我们曾经说过,房子是应该经常打扫的,不打扫就会积满了灰尘;脸是应该经常洗的,不洗也就会灰尘满面。 (1, 997)

As we say, dust will accumulate if a room is not cleaned regularly, our faces will get dirty if they are not washed regularly. (III, 266)

例9和例10,前半句是主谓结构,是可以独立存在的。在整个句子里它是主语。后半句是谓语,不能独立存在。译文把

前半句译成名词词组,整个句子的结构就压缩了。例11和12,前半句是主谓结构,可以独立,后半句也是主谓结构,也可以独立,但前后并不是两个并列的分句。后半句的主语概括了前半句的内容,因此译文就以后半句的主语为全句的主语,而把前半句译为定语了。例13前半句"专政还有第二个作用"有主语有谓语,可以独立,但后半句省略了主语,如果补上,应该是前半句的宾语"第二个作用"。译文直接以 The second function 做主语,以 of this dictatorship 做定语了。例14前半句"房子是应该经常打扫的"也可以独立存在。后半句主语没有说出来,似乎也是前半句的主语"房子"。译文把前后结合在一起,"应该打扫"的意思实际上没有译,而是暗含在其中了。

以上的例子说明,汉英两种语言在安排句子方面是不同的。这种不同反映了两种不同的思路。汉语往往是从无到有,逐步展开,给人以从容不迫的印象。而英语则重点突出,结构紧凑,给人以简洁明快的感觉。

了解了以上的不同之处,在英译汉时便可以充分发挥汉语 句子的特点。

M15. The isolation of the rural world because of distance and the lack of transport facilities is compounded by the paucity of the information media.

因为距离远, 又缺乏交通工具, 农村社会是 与外界隔绝的, 这种隔绝状态, 由于通讯工具不足, 就变得更加严重。

M16. We fully understand their decision to bring this question before the Council.

我们完全理解他们为什么决定把这个问题提交安理会。

最后一个例子,初译时完全按照原文的结构,译为"我们

完全理解他们把这个问题提交安理会的决定。"意思就不清楚 了。

练 习 13

试将下例句子译成英语:

- 1.这些情况说明,用三年时间集中力量进行国民经济的调整、改革、整顿、提高,是完全必要的。
- 2. 希思先生是英国卓越的政治家,应中国政府的邀请,前 来进行友好访问,我们感到十分高兴。
 - 3. 这里就得出一条经验,它叫我们可以藐视困难。
- 4. 中国共产党从一九二一年产生以来,已经二十四年了, 其间经过了北伐战争、土地革命战争、抗日战争这样三个英勇· 奋斗的历史时期,积累了丰富的经验。

14 怎样断句

在翻译过程中,时常把一句话断为两句或几句。从形式上看,不外三种断法。第一种断法,是在接近句首的地方断句。

例1.但是人民是最好的鉴定人,他们知道八路军新四军这时数量虽小,质量却很高,只有它才能进行真正的人民战争,它一旦开到抗日的前线,和那里的广大人民相结合,其前途是无限的。(《毛泽东选集》第三卷,第939页,简称Ⅱ,939。下同)

But the people are the best judges. The people knew that despite their small number at the time, the Eighth Route and New Fourth Armies were of high quality, that they alone could wage a real people's war and that boundless prospects would open up before them once they reached the anti-Japanese fronts and joined with the broad masses there. (III, 214)

例2. 不,不是这样,事实是好坏两个可能性、好坏两个前途都存在着。(Ⅱ,953)

No, it will not. Actually there are two possibilities, two prospects, one good and one bad. (III, 226)

例3. 今年不同,战争费用估计只要用去年的一半。(V,66)

This year it will be different. It is estimated that the outlays for war will come to only half last year's figure.

(V, 78)

例4. 其步骤,应是以一年时间(一九五一年)普遍进行 关于怎样做一个共产党员的教育,使所有党员明白做一个共产 党员的标准,并训练组织工作人员。同时,……(V,36)

The steps to be taken are as follows. Devote one year (1951) to extensive education on what is required of a Communist, so that the entire membership will know the standards a Communist should live up to, and to the training of personnel for organizational work. At the same time. . . . (V, 48)

这几个例子,就汉语而言有一个共同点,即"总提——详述"。先用几个字概括地提一下,随着再详细地加以说明。碰到汉语有"拿……来说"和"比如……"之类的句子,译成英语,一般也是断句的。

例5.拿我们这些人来说,很多人每年都有一些进步,也就 是说,每年都在改造。(V,382)

Take for example those of us present here. Many of us make some progress each year, that is to say, we are remoulding ourselves each year. (V, 402-403)

例6,又比如城市青年,或者进学校,或者到农村去,或者 到工厂去,或者到边疆去,总要有个安排。(Y,340)

Or take the urban youth for example. Arrangements must be made for them in one way or another — they can go to school or work on a farm, in a factory or in a frontier area. (V, 360)

第二种断法,是在接近句末的地方断句。

例7.灾难深重的中华民族,一百年来,其优秀人物奋斗构 牲,前仆后继,摸索教国教民的真理,是可歌可运的。(II, For a hundred years, the finest sons and daughters of the disaster-ridden Chinese nation fought and sacrificed their lives, one stepping into the breach as another fell, in quest of the truth that would save the country and the people. This moved us to song and tears. (III, 17)

例8. 我们长征路上过草地,根本没有房子,就那么睡,朱总司令走了四十天草地,也是那么睡,都过来了。(Y,317)

There were no houses whatsoever when we crossed the marshlands on the Long March, we just slept where we could, and Commander-in-Chief Chu Teh did so too when he walked for forty days across the marshlands. We all came through. (V, 336)

例9. 另一种态度,学习的时候用脑筋想一下,学那些和我国情况相适合的东西,即吸取对我们有益的经验,我们需要的是这样一种态度。(V, 401—402)

The other attitude is to use our heads and learn those things which suit our conditions, that is, to absorb whatever experience is useful to us. That is the attitude we should adopt. (V, 420)

例10.人们必须通过对现象的分析和研究,才能了解到事物的本盾、因此需要有科学。(V,150)

It is by analysing and studying the appearance of a thing that people come to know its essence. Hence the need for science. (V, 166)

这几个例子的共同点是"详述——总结"。先详细地把事 108 情说清楚,然后简单加以概括,也可能是一种评论,也可能是 得出的结论。碰到汉语以一个简短的问题结尾的句子,译成英 语,一般也是断句的。

例11. 应当承认,每个民族都有它的长处,不然它为什么能存在?(V, 285)

It must be admitted that every nation has its strong points. If not, how can it survive? (V, 303)

例12. 许多同志爱说"大众化",但是什么叫做大众化呢?(I,808)

Many comrades like to talk about "a mass style". But what does it really mean? (III, 72)

例18. 在建设社会主义社会的过程中,人人需要改造,剥削者要改造,劳动者也要改造,谁说工人阶级不要改造? (V,382)

In the building of a socialist society, everybody needs remoulding—the exploiters and also the working people. Who says it isn't necessary for the working class? (V, 402)

第三种断法, 从中间断句。

例14. 在解决中央和地方、地方和地方的关系问题上,我们的经验还不多,还不成熟,希望你们好好研究讨论,并且每过一个时期就要总结经验,发扬成绩,克服缺点。(V, 277)

Our experience is still insufficient and immature on the question of handling the relationship between the central and local authorities and that between different local authorities. We hope that you will consider and discuss it in earnest and sum up your experience from time to time so as to enhance achievements and overcome shortcomings. (V, 295)

例15. 在任何一个地区内,不能同时有许多中心工作,在一定时间内只能有一个中心工作,辅以别的第二位、第三位的工作。(Ⅰ,856)

In any given place, there cannot be a number of central tasks at the same time. At any one time there can be only one central task, supplemented by other tasks of a second or third order of importance. (III, 121)

例16. 什么人站在革命人民方面,他就是革命派,什么人站在帝国主义封建主义官僚资本主义方面,他就是反革命派。 (V,26—27)

Whoever sides with the revolutionary people is a revolutionary. Whoever sides with imperialism, feudalism and bureaucrat-capitalism is a counter-revolutionary. (V, 38)

例17. 那时,周瑜是个"青年团员",当东吴的统帅,程 普等老将不服,后来说服了,还是由他当,结果打了胜仗。 (V,85)

Chou Yu, who was then a "Youth League member" in age, was appointed commanding general of the Wu army. Cheng Pu and other battle-seasoned generals protested but were later persuaded into accepting his command, and in the end the battle was won. (V, 97)

这种句子,大多是前半句说明一个事实,后半句再加以发挥。或者前半句说明一方面的情况,后半句说明另一方面的情况。

以上的例子都是一句分为两句。有时一个句子还可以分为 三句、四句乃至五句以上。

例18. 唯物论和辩证法则要用气力,它要根据客观实际, 110 并受客观实际检查,不用气力就会滑到唯心论和形而上学方面去。(V,159)

Materialism and dialectics, on the other hand, demand effort. They must be based on and submitted to the test of objective reality Unless one makes the effort, one is liable to drift into idealism and metaphysics. (V, 174)

例19. "三反"是斗那些被资产阶级腐蚀的工作人员, "五反"是丰资产阶级,狠狠地斗了一下。(`V,324)

The movement against the "three evils" was a struggle against those of our personnel who had been corrupted by the bourgeoisie. The movement against the "five evils" was a struggle against the bourgeoisie. In both movements relentless blows were dealt. (V, 343)

例20. 革命的政治家们,懂得革命的政治科学或政治艺术的政治专门家们,他们只是千千万万的群众政治家的领袖,他们的任务在于把群众政治家的意见集中起来,加以提炼,再使之回到群众中去,为群众所接受,所实践,而不是闭门造车,自作聪明,只此一家,别无分店的那种贵族式的所谓"政治家",——这是无产阶级政治家同腐朽了的资产阶级政治家的原则区别。(I, 823)

Revolutionary statesmen, the political specialists who know the science or art of revolutionary politics, are simply the leaders of millions upon millions of statesmen—the masses. Their task is to collect the opinions of these mass statesmen, sift and refine them, and return them to the masses, who then take them and put them into practice. They are therefore not the kind of aristocratic "statesmen" who work be-

hind closed doors and fancy they have a monopoly of wisdom. Herein lies the difference in principle between proletarian statesmen and decadent bourgeois statesmen. (III, 87)

从以上的例子看来,断句并不完全是由于句子长,因为有些句子并不长。断句的地方可前可后,一句话也可以断为好几句,断了以后,句子的长短也不一定一样。那么断句的原因究竟是什么呢?断句的原因不是别的,就在于句子的结构。汉语的句子,结构比较松散,可以把许多内容放在一个句子里,而且不一定用连词连接起来。英语的句子,结构比较谨严,句子的各部分连系得比较紧。译文断句,就可以使句子结构紧凑,而不至过于松散。

说完了断句,顺便说一说并句的问题。如果说断句是翻译中一种常见的现象,那么,并句就是一种不常见的现象了。首先,能够合并的句子都是短句。如果句子已经很长,就不合并了。其次,合并的句子内容联系很紧。

例21、我们党吃所谓"钦差大臣"的亏,是不可胜数的。 而这种"钦差大臣"则是满天飞,几乎到处都有。(Ⅰ,749)

Countless times our Party suffered at the hands of these "imperial envoys", who rushed here, there and everywhere. (III, 13)

例22. 党八股也就是一种洋八股。这洋八股,鲁迅早就反对过的。(Ⅱ,787)

Stereotyped Party writing is, moreover, one brand of the "foreign stereotype", which was attacked by Lu Hsun a long time ago. (III, 53)

例23. 思想动向问题,我们应当抓住。这里当作第一个问题提出来。(V,330)

We should keep tabs on ideological trends, which I am taking up here as the first question. (V, 350)

例24. 在不明事理的中国人看来,艾奇逊说得很有点象。 西方的新观念输入了中国,引起了革命。(F,1402)

To those Chinese who do not reason clearly, what Acheson says sounds plausible — the influx of new ideas from the West gave rise to the revolution. (IV, 454)

这四个例子都是前面一句话提到一件事,后面一句话接着 谈这件事,两句话都不长。译文用一个 who 或 which 或 "——"就轻易地把两句话连在一起了。

例25. 在座的各位和广大积极分子为什么拥护这个宪法草案呢? 为什么觉得它是好的呢? (V, 126)

Why do all of you here and the vast numbers of activists support the Draft Constitution and find it satisfactory? (V, 142)

例26. 在这一次会议上,我们也可以看到这样的情况。这是极大的好事。(V, 144)

This has been borne out at this conference and is a very good thing. (V, 159)

这两个例子,译文都是一个主语管下来,比在中间停顿, 另起一句,更为流畅。

例27. 一种是一般性的错误,如"五多",大家都可能犯,什么时候都可能犯。"五多"的错误也可以变成"五少"的错误。另一种是原则性的错误,……(Y,90)

One kind is of an ordinary nature, for instance, the "five excesses", mistakes which anyone can make and which may crop up at any time; the "five excesses" may also turn into the

"five deficiencies". The other kind is mistakes of principle,
(V, 103)

例28.在一千三百年前,已经发明了刻版印刷。在八百年 前,更发明了活字印刷。(I,585—586)

Block-printing was invented 1,300 years ago, and movable type 800 years ago. (II, 306)

例27原文是"一种是……", "另一种是……", 中间加了一句"'五多'的错误……"。译文将中间这一句与前面一句合并, One kind is The other is 所表现的对比就更加清楚。例28的上下文说的是我国古代的四大发明。译文把关于印刷技术的两句合并,一句话讲一件事,显得格外明快。

练 习 14

下列句子各译作几句为宜?

- 1.一百多年殖民主义、帝国主义奴役中国人民的时代结束 了,中国人民站起来了。
- 2.在我国这样一个九亿多人口的大国实现四个现代化,是一件非常艰巨复杂的工作,进一步打好基础是今后顺利发展的重要前提。
- 3.现在也有两座压在中国人民头上的大山,一座叫做帝国主义,一座叫做封建主义。
- 4.比如军事指挥员,他们并不对外发宣言,但是他们要和士兵讲话,要和人民接洽,这不是宣传是什么?
- 5.有许多时候,群众在客观上虽然有了某种改革的需要, 但在他们的主观上还没有这种说悟,群众还没有决心,还不愿 实行改革,我们就要耐心地等待,直到经过我们的工作,群众 的多数有了觉悟,有了决心,自愿实行改革,才去实行这种改

革, 否则就会脱离群众。

- 6.合作社正在经历一个逐步巩固的过程。它还存在着一些需要解决的矛盾。例如,在国家同合作社之间,在合作社内部,在合作社同合作社相互之间,都有一些矛盾需要解决。
- 7.年满十八岁的公民,都有选举权和被选举权。依照法律被剥夺选举权和被选举权的人除外。

15 怎样加强语气

写文章,有时为了强调某一点,往往采取一些修辞手段,以加强语气。如使用有力的形容词或副词,使用重复、排比、倒装等手段,都可以取得加强语气的效果。汉英两种语言有许多加强语气的办法都是共同的。但是在翻译一个具体句子的时候,是否汉语怎样说,译文也照搬就行了呢?不然。如果机械地照搬,有时不但不能加强语气,而且还会产生相反的效果。

第一、汉语往往从几个地方同时加强, 英语则往往只在一个地方加强。

例1. 全国各族人民(《毛泽东选集》第五卷,第375页, 简称 V,375。下同)

the people of all nationalities in our country (V, 396)

例2. 全中国所有的民主党派,人民团体(V,3)

all the democratic parties and people's organizations of China (V, 15)

例3. 广大人民群众(V, 368)

the masses (V, 389)

例4. 惩治这种人是社会广大群众的要求,不予惩治则是 违反群众意愿的。(V, 396)

Punishing them is the demand of the masses, and it would run counter to the popular will if they were not punished. (V, 416)

汉语先说"全国",又说"各族",在两处强调。以前看 116 见过这样的译文, the people of all nationalities throughout our country, 也在两处强调, 这是不必要的。"人民"和"群众"本身都是指很多人, 汉语还可以加上"广大"二字。过去乃至现在还往往译作 the broad masses of the people, 每个字都作了交代, 也是没有必要的。

《汉英词典》第87页, "呈现"条下有这样一个例句:

例5. 广大农村呈现出一派繁荣的景象。

The countryside is one vast scene of prosperity.

此例原译为 The whole countryside is one vast scene of prosperity, 在 whole 和 vast 两处加强,后来把 vast 删去。看来有一处加强语气就够了,处处加强,句子反而无力。

第二,有时汉语用适当的形容词或副词来加强语气,但译成英语时,这些形容词或副词所修饰的名词或动词已经包括了它们所表达的意思。如果还硬要译出来,便会成为蛇足。

例6. 这完全是不切实际的幻想。

This is sheer illusion.

根据 Webster's New World Dictionary, illusion 的意思是 a false idea or conception; belief or opinion not in accord with the facts. 可见 "不切实际"的意思已经包含在 illusion一词之中。当然汉语"幻想"一词也包含"不切实际"的意思,但汉语仍可用 "不切实际"来加强语气。英语则不然,如果说 unrealistic illusion 就十分可笑,当然也就达不到加强语气的目的了。

例7. 同时,要根据我们过去的经验,批评那些不符合实际的观点,批评这个主观主义,打击这个主观主义。(V,297)

At the same time, in the light of our experience, we should criticize views running counter to the realities, criticize and

combat subjectivism. (V, 315)

例8. 马列主义是在各国人民的革命斗争中不断发展的, 无论是谁都不能用任何形式加以垄断和固定化。(叶剑英: 《在庆祝中华人民共和国成立三十周年大会上的讲话》)

Marxism-Leninism develops through the revolutionary struggles of the people in different countries. It cannot be monopolized or ossified by anyone in whatever form.

例9. 社会主义制度是人类历史上崭新的社会制度,它同世界上的任何其他事物一样,有它发生和发展的过程。(同上)

Socialism is *historically* a brand-new social system. Like everything else in the world, it goes through birth and growth.

例10. 当着某一种错误的东西被人类普遍地抛弃,某一种 真理被人类普遍地接受的时候,更加新的真理又在同新的错误 意见作斗争。(V, 390)

As soon as something erroneous is rejected and a particular truth *accepted* by mankind, new truths begin to struggle with new errors. (V, 409)

例11. 各国共产党人和各国革命人民需要认真地思考和研究这些成功的经验和失败的经验……

Communists and revolutionaries in all countries should ponder and seriously study these experiences of success and failure....

例12. 争取世界和平的最根本道路

the fundamental road to world peace

为什么例11的中文"认真地"一词既修饰"思考",又修饰"研究",而译文则把 seriously 放在后面,只修饰 study呢?因为 ponder 一词的意思就是 think deeply about; con-

sider carefully, 不需要再加修饰了。例12 "最根本的"只译作fundamental, 因为这个词的含义是 most important, 已经含有最高级的意思了。

以上几个例子,表面上看有些加强语气的形容词、副词没有译出来,但这样语气更强些,如果译出来,反而会使语气减弱。

虽然如此,也不是说英语就绝对不允许加这种似乎并不需要的修饰语。例如我们有时可以听到 in actual practice, past history, a young boy 这样的说法。在一九七八年英国出版的刊物 The Listener 上,看到过这样的话。

Liner ships carry all sorts of different cargoes

From that the main theories are firstly, that.... The second alternative is that the metals are introduced to the oceans by volcanic activity.

英国哲学家 Bertrand Russell 在 Portraits from Memory 一书中有这样一句话。

I never do anything whatever on the ground that it is good for health, though in actual fact the things I like doing are mostly wholesome.

《汉英词典》第631页,"首尾"条下有这样一个例子: 例13. 我对这个问题的看法是首尾一贯的。

I have always been consistent in my views on this subject. 这句话原译没有 always 一词,编者认为 have been consistent 已表达了"首尾一贯"的意思。但外国专家认为需要加always, 语气上才恰当。所以,归根结底还是一个习惯用法的问题。一种语言长期形成的搭配,到另一种语言里就不行了。翻译的时候就需要灵活处理,不能照搬。

第三,或者不译,或者用真正有分量的词。

例14. 又团结,又斗争,以斗争之手段,达团结之目的(N,1052)

unity, struggle, unity through struggle (IV, 49)

译文只用了五个字, "手段", "目的"都没有译。但是 这五个字这样排列,全部的意思就都表达出来了。译文简洁有 力,给人以深刻的印象。

例15. 事实究竟是怎样呢?

What are the facts?

例16. 一切种类的文学艺术的源泉究竟是从何而来的呢? (Ⅱ,817)

In the last analysis, what is the source of all literature and art? (III,81)

"究竟"一词在例15中没有译,这是一种常见的处理办法。在口语里可以译作 on earth 等等,但在书面语里就不合文体,所以一般略去不译。不译,语气更强一些。例16选用了强有力的词组。乍一看觉得奇怪,为什么把"究竟"译作 in the last analysis. 仔细一想,正是此意。也只有这样才能真正加强语气。

例17. 谁要是只看鬼光明一面,不看见困难一面,谁就会不能很好地为实现党的任务而斗争。(I, 994)

Anyone who sees only the bright side but not the difficulties cannot fight *effectively* for the accomplishment of the Party's tasks. (III, 264)

如果在 fight 后面不用 effectively, 而来一个 very well, 就很不相称了。

例18. 祝贺中国人民志愿军的重大胜利(V,70)

Hail the Signal Victory of the Chinese People's Volunteers! (V, 82)

我们看到"重大",一般只想到 great 或 tremendous,但 signal 才真正有分量。

例19. 对于中国共产党人,为本党的最低纲领而奋斗和为孙先生的革命三民主义即新三民主义而奋斗,在基本上(不是在一切方面)是一件事情,并不是两件事情。(1,962)

To us Chinese Communists, the struggle for our Party's minimum programme and the struggle for Dr. Sun's revolutionary, or new, Three People's Principles are basically (though not in every respect) one and the same thing. (III, 234)

例20. 这是唯一的源泉,因为只能有这样的源泉,此外不能有第二个源泉。(Ⅱ,817)

They are the only source, for there can be no other. (III, 81)

例19原文前半句长,后半句短,有些压不住,所以把末尾重复一下,借以加强。译文 one and the same thing 是一个很强的结尾。例20译文也很有力。若再重复表达已经很有力地表达了的概念,就会显得罗嗦,当然也就无力了。

例21. 这是什么缘故呢?不是别的,就是因为我们的意见,符合于最广大的中国人民的利益。(■,988)

Why? Simply because our opinions conform to the interests of the Chinese masses. (III, 258)

例22. 我们的任务是什么呢?我们的任务不是别的,就是 被手发动群众, ……(I, 927)

What is our task? Our *sole* task is boldly to mobilize the masses, (III, 202)

例23. 我们一定要坚持下去,一定要不断地工作,我们也会感动上帝的。这个上帝不是别人,就是全中国的人民大众。 (Ⅰ,1002)

We must persevere and work unceasingly, and we, too, will touch God's heart. Our God is none other than the masses of the Chinese people. (III, 272)

例24. 我们的战争不是任何别的战争,乃是中日两国在二十世纪三十年代进行的战争。(I,419)

Our war is not just any war, it is specifically a war between China and Japan fought in the Nineteen Thirties. (II, 125)

在例21和例22中,"不是别的"都没有译,而是把"就是"适当加强一点,用了 simply 和 sole。例23译文用了 none other than, 这是英语中常见的一个加强语气的词组。但是也正因为常见,就往往不能给人以深刻的印象。例24,一九五四年发表的英译本译为 Our war is none other than a war fought 一九六五年的版本译为 Our war is not just any war, it is specifically a war...., 大概就是因为 none other than 不够有力吧。例22,五四年的版本译为 Our task is none other than, 六五年的版本译为 Our sole task ..., 大概也是由于同样的原因。

例25. ……应当批判他们的毒害青年的错误思想,不应当时他们投降。(V,135)

... we should criticize their erroneous ideas which poison the minds of the young, and we certainly should not surrender to them. (V, 151)

例26. 我们的目的一定要达到。 我们的目的一定能够达到。(V, 133) Our goal must be attained.

Our goal can unquestionably be attained. (V, 149)

例25是一篇文章的最后一段,语气很强,所以译文加了一个字,把"不应当"译作 certainly should not. 英语 certainly 一词,作为一个加强语气的词,也还是可以用的。但它毕竟用得太多,所以有时感到它还不够有力。例26第二句最初发表的译文是 Our goal can certainly be attained. 五卷英译本把 certainly 改为 unquestionably 一词,使人看了顿时觉得耳目为之一新,得到的印象是极为深刻的。

第四、译文加词,以加强语气。

例27. 这个宪法草案公布以后,在国际上会不会发生影响?在民主阵营中,在资本主义国家中,都会发生影响。(V,129)

Will this Draft Constitution produce an impact on the world when it is promulgated? Yes, it will, both on the democratic camp and on the capitalist countries. (V, 145)

例28、把群众力量组织起来,这是一种方针。还有什么与此相反的方针没有呢?有的。(■,884)

To organize the strength of the masses is one policy. Is there a contrary policy? Yes, there is. (III, 155)

例29. 在如此生动丰富的中国革命环境和世界革命环境中,我们在学习问题上的这一改造,我相信一定会有好的结果。(Ⅰ,761)

I am confident that in the context of the Chinese revolution and the world revolution, which is so intensely alive and so richly varied, this reform of our study will certainly yield good results. (III, 24) 例29是《改造我们的学习》一文的最后一句话。"如此生动主富的"如只译作 so alive and varied,则不够有力。

第五,使用倒装句。这种做法在汉语和英语里都有。我国修辞学家陈望道说:"话中特意颠倒文法上逻辑上普通顺序的部分,名叫倒装辞。……大都用以加强语势,调和音节,或错综句法。"①荷兰语法家 R.W. Zandvoort 说:"... inversion caused by front-position of an adjunct or object occurs chiefly in emphatic or emotional style."②但是在翻译的时候,不一定是倒装句才译作倒装句。

例30、我们的国家现在是空前统一的。(V, 363)

Never before has our country been as united as it is today. (V, 384)

例31. 这是必然的,毫无疑义的,我们务必不要松懈自己的警惕性。(V,5)

This is inevitable and beyond all doubt, and under no circumstances must we relax our vigilance. (V, 17)

例32. 我们的人民民主专政的国家制度是保障人民革命的 胜利成果和反对内外敌人的复辟阴谋的有力的武器,我们必须 牢牢地掌握这个武器。(V,5)

Our state system, the people's democratic dictatorship, is a powerful weapon for safeguarding the fruits of victory of the people's revolution and for thwarting the plots of domestic and foreign enemies for restoration, and this weapon we must firmly grasp.(V. 17)

① (修辞学发凡), 第211页。

⁽²⁾ A Handbook of English Grammar, (London, 1957) p. 239.

例33. 中国的历史,从此开辟了一个新的时代。(V, 9) Thus begins a new era in the history of China. (V, 20)

例34. 但是时间无论怎样长,我们却必须解决它,必须明确地彻底地解决它。(■,814)

But however long it takes, solve it we must and solve it unequivocally and thoroughly. (III, 78)

例35. 到达这一天,决不是很快和很容易的,但是必然要到达这一天。(Ⅰ,933)

To be sure, that day will not come very quickly or easily, but come it surely will. (III, 207)

这六个例子,汉语都没有用倒装句,但语气都是很强的。 译文使用倒装句,恰当地表达了原文的口气。至于倒装句的各种结构,这里就不多说了。

第六,断句。汉语句子的结构较松,有时可以把几个非常有力的句子放在一个句子里,不用连词,只用逗号点开。译成英语最好独自成句,如用 and 连起来就没有力量了。请看:

例36. 我们的民族将再也不是一个被人侮辱的民族了,我们已经站起来了。(V,5)

Ours will no longer be a nation subject to insult and humiliation. We have stood up. (V, 17)

例37. 我们的革命已经获得全世界广大人民的同情和欢呼,我们的朋友遍于全世界。(V,5)

Our revolution has won the sympathy and acclaim of the people of all countries. We have friends all over the world. (V, 17)

例38. 让那些内外反动派在我们面前发抖罢,让他们去说 我们这也不行那也不行罢,中国人民的不屈不挠的努力必将稳

步地达到自己的目的。(V, 6)

Let the domestic and foreign reactionaries tremble before us! Let them say we are no good at this and no good at that. By our own indomitable efforts we the Chinese people will unswervingly reach our goal. (V, 18)

练 习 15

翻译下列各句时怎样加强语气?

- 1.这是一个伟大的历史性转变。
- 2.这是一件了不起的大事。
- 3.这里,最基本的道理,就是……
- 4.不论在自然界和在社会上,一切新生力量,就其性质来说,从来就是不可战胜的。
- 5.整个经济战线的这种蒸蒸日上的可喜形势,是过去十多 年来所没有过的。

16 However放在哪里

汉语里有一些连词,如"但是"、"然而"、"因此"、 "所以",它们可以连接两个分句,也可以连接两个句子或段落。在后一种情况下,这些连词总是放在后面一句或一段的开头。这些连词译成英语,往往译为 however, therefore. 而这些词在英语里是副词,其位置有两种可能性。请看:

例1. 但是,他们的学习和工作的负担都不能过重。(《毛泽东选集》第五卷,第84页,简称 V,84。下同)

However, they must not be overloaded with either study or work. (V, 96)

例2. 然而中国资产阶级民主主义革命,自从一九一四年 爆发第一次帝国主义世界大战和一九一七年俄国十月革命在地 球六分之一的土地上建立了社会主义国家以来,起了一个变 化。(1,628)

A change, however, occurred in China's bourgeois-democratic revolution after the outbreak of the first imperialist world war in 1914 and the founding of a socialist state on one-sixth of the globe as a result of the Russian October Revolution of 1917. (II, 343)

例3. 这种叫嚣,其本质就是顽固分子们的资产阶级专制主义。但为了客气一点,叫它作毫无常识,也是可以的。 (1,646)

In essence it is the howl of the die-hards for bourgeois

despotism. Out of courtesy, however, we may simply describe it as totally lacking in common sense. (II, 360)

例4. 中国则不同。(I, 507)

China is different however. (II, 220)

例5. 因此,我国在目前过渡时期,在农业方面,除国营农场外,还不可能施行统一的有计划的生产,不能对农民施以过多的干涉;……(V,79)

Therefore, in the present transition period we cannot introduce unified and planned production in agriculture, except on the state farms, and interfere too much with the peasants. (V, 91)

例6. 因此,那种以为中国革命力量瞬间就可以组成,中国革命斗争顷刻就可以胜利的观点,是不正确的。(I,597)

It is therefore wrong to think that the forces of the Chinese revolution can be built up in the twinkling of an eye, or that China's revolutionary struggle can triumph overnight. (II, 316)

例7. 因此, 趁着《中国文化》的出版, 说明一下中国政治和中国文化的动向问题, 或者也是有益的。(I, 623)

On the occasion of the publication of *Chinese Culture*, it may therefore be profitable to clarify the political and cultural trends in the country. (II, 339)

在例1和例5中, however 和 therefore 的位置和汉语一样,都在句首。但在例2、例3、例4和例6、例7中,这 两个词则成了插入语,移到了较后的位置。放在句首,强调口气的转折,放在后面,则突出了句子本身表达的思想。据我观察,在英语中,这两个词在大多数情况下不是放在句首,而是放在较

后的位置。马克思有一句名言:

哲学家们只是用不同的方式解释世界,而问题在于改变世界。①

这句话原是德文, 英文就译作

The philosophers have only interpreted the world, in various ways; the point, however, is to change it. 我还作过一项统计,关于however一词,在书报杂志中看到的44个例子中,只有7例放在句首,其余37例都作为插入语放在较后的位置。第四章提到的 A Grammar of Contemporary English 一书在介绍 however 一词时所给的例句,也是把这个词作为插入语放在句中的,例句如下。

He has been in office for only a few months.' He has, however, achieved more than any of his predecessors. 书中还有一个注解。注文说: "把 however 一词放在句首,在口语中有时表示说话的人不打算再就当时谈论的题目继续往下谈了"。举的例子是:

I think you had no right to speak to him in that way. However, I really wanted to let you know what I think about your recent letters to me. ①

Therefore 一词, 也是在大多数情况下用作插入语。但是, 一般在翻译时往往忽略这一特点, 而照汉语把这些词放在句首, 其实译作插入语是更符合英语习惯的。

汉语里有些独立成分,如"我想"、"据我看来"等等,

① 《马克昂恩格斯选集》第一卷,第19页。

² A Grammar of Contemporary English, (London, 1973) p.674.

一般是放在句首,译文也往往是作插入语放在较后的位置。

例8. 我想,这可以算作《中国文化》出版的态度。

(I, 623-624)

This, I think, can be regarded as the attitude of Chinese Culture. (II, 340)

例9. 我认为这是对整个文学艺术运动很有益处的。 (Ⅱ,810)

This, *I believe*, will very much benefit the whole literary and artistic movement. (III, 74)

例10. 据我看来,如果不纠正这类缺点,就无法使我们的工作更进一步,……(Ⅱ,754)

Unless we correct these shortcomings, we shall not, in my opinion, be able to take another step forward in our work (III, 18)

例11. 如象我在上面讲过的,在我们的社会中,群众闹事 是坏事,是我们所不赞成的。(Y, 397)

In our society, as I have said, disturbances by the masses are bad, and we do not approve of them. (V, 416)

例12、我们说要学习马克思主义和学习社会,就是为着完全地彻底地解决这个问题。(Ⅱ,815)

We must study Marxism and study society, as we have been saying, precisely in order to achieve a complete and thorough solution. (III, 79)

例13. 我们应该讲,我们这次大会是关系全中国四亿五千万人民命运的一次大会。(Ⅱ,926)

It is a congress, it should be said, that affects the destiny

of China's 450 million people. (III, 201)

例14. ……须知民众就是革命文化的无限丰富的源泉。 (I,668)

... the people, it must be stressed, are the inexhaustible source of our revolutionary culture. (II, 382)

例15. 那末,这个历史特点是怎样形成的呢?(I, 627) How, then, has this historical characteristic come into being? (II, 342)

例16. 那末,什么是中华民族的新政治、新经济,又什么是中华民族的新文化呢?(I,626)

What, then, are the new politics and the new economy of the Chinese nation, and what is its new culture? (II, 341)

以上几个例子, 汉语的独立成分译成英语时, 也不是不可以象汉语那样放在句首, 但放在较后的位置比较符合英语的习惯。

了解了汉英两种语言的这一特点,在英译汉时也就可以放 手地把有关的词语提前,放在句首了。

17. The situation changed in 1971-72, however.

然而,在1971-72年情况发生了变化。

[9]18. I have given enough examples, I think, to make my point.

我想,我已经举了足够的例子来说明我的论点了。

练 习 16

将下列各句译成英语时 however 之类的词放在哪里?

1.但是在有些同志的工作中间,群众路线仍然不能贯彻, 他们还是只靠少数人冷冷清清地做工作。

- 2. 但是,应该承认,我国封建主义的历史很长,经济文化比较落后……
- 3.今天是五四运动的二十周年纪念日,我们延安的全体青年在这里开这个纪念大会,我就来讲一讲关于中国青年运动的方向的几个问题。
 - 4.因此,必须注重整社的工作。

17 成语怎样译

成语是人们长期以来习用的定型的词组或短句,形式简洁 而意思精辟。成语大都包含生动的形象,往往很不好译。如能 把形象译出来,可以给人以深刻的印象,也有助于保持原文的 风格。

例1. 吃一**堑**, 长一智。(《毛泽东选集》第一卷,第261页, 简称 1, 261。下同)

A fall into the pit, a gain in your wit. (1, 297)

例2. 下笔千言,离题万里。(Ⅰ,797)

A thousand words from the pen in a stream, but ten thousand li away from the theme. (III, 62)

例3. 不入虎穴, 焉得虎子。(1, 265)

How can you catch tiger cubs without entering the tiger's lair? (I, 300)

例4. 国内废科举,兴学校,好象雨后春笋,努力学习西方。(N,1358—1359)

At home, the imperial examinations were abolished and modern schools sprang up like bamboo shoots after a spring rain; every effort was made to learn from the West. (IV, 412)

这四个例子都译出了原文的形象。例1和例2译文简洁而且押韵,译出了成语的特色,是非常成功的译例。例3也可以在英语中找到意思相近的成语,Nothing venture, nothing have. 但失去了形象,不如原文具体生动。例4中的"雨后春笋"时

常译作 like mushrooms. 《汉英词典》在"雨后春笋"这个条目之下给的例句就是这样处理的。但例4译文保留了原来的形象,带有中国风味。

有时也可以从英语中找到恰当的相应的成语。

例5、 半斤八两(1,819)

six of one and half a dozen of the other (III, 83)

例6. 小题大作(V, 115)

making a mountain out of a molehill (V, 129)

例7、 漆黑一团(I, 755)

to be in a fog about... (III, 19)

例8. 出风头(Ⅱ.779)

to be in the limelight (III, 44)

例9. 一打一拉,又打又拉的老政策(11,762)

old policy of using the stick and the carrot, either alternately or simultaneously (III, 27)

例10. 来自五湖四海(Ⅱ, 906)

hail from all corners of the country (III, 177)

例9还有一个译文。一九五六年发表的译本就译为 old policy of striking and stroking alternately or simultaneously. 句中用了 striking and stroking, 用押头韵的办法使译文带点成语的味道。这在英语里是常见的,例如share weal and woe 以及 the storm and stress, 等等。但一九六五年发表的译本用了英语成语,译为 using the stick and the carrot, 就更为具体生动了。例10如译为 five lakes and four seas, 读者会感到莫名其妙。

用英语成语译汉语成语必须十分小心。有时表面上一样, 意思却大不相同。 例11、食言

go back on one's word; break one's promise 食言而肥

fail to make good one's promise; break faith with sb. (《汉英词典》第621页)

例12. 一触即发

may be triggered at any moment; be on the verge of breaking out (《汉英词典》第809页)

为什么例11不译作 eat one's words? 为什么例12不译作 touch and go? 就是因为"食言"的意思是"不履行诺言",而 eat one's words 的意思是收回前言。"一触即发"比喻形势非常紧张,马上会发生严重的事情。这里的"形势"多指"冲突"或"战争"。而 touch and go, 虽然各英语词书在解释中也用了 precarious, risky, uncertain 等词,但从它们给的例句来看,意思近于"危急",而与"一触即发"的意思相去甚远。请看:

Our team won the game, all right, but it was touch and go for a while. (A Dictionary of American Idioms)

At one time while they were climbing the cliff it was touch and go whether they could do it. (ibid.)

It was touch-and-go whether the doctor would arrive in time. (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Current English)

It was touch-and-go with the sick man. (ibid.)

I am happy to say that the patient has taken a turn for the better. Last evening it was touch and go whether he would survive the night. (F.T. Wood, English Colloquial Idioms)

汉语有些成语,前一半和后一半意思相近。这种成语,有时全译。

例13、冷嘲热讽(Ⅱ,829)

burning satire and freezing irony (III, 92)

例14. 和风细雨(V, 432)

like "a gentle breeze and a mild rain" (V, 449) 有时只译一半,

例15、铜墙铁壁(], 125)

bastion of iron (I, 150)

例16. 面黄饥瘦(1, 949)

emaciated (III, 222)

有时则只概括地表达原文的意思,

例17. 背信弃义(Ⅰ, 764)

perfidious (III, 29)

例18、根深蒂固(Ⅱ,788)

deeply ingrained (III, 54)

例19. 转弯抹角(Ⅱ, 961)

obliquely (III, 233)

例20. 只有经过民主主义,才能到达社会主义,这是马克思主义的天经地义。(Ⅰ,961)

It is a *law* of Marxism that socialism can be attained only via the stage of democracy. (III, 233)

有些成语构成一个完整的思想或概念。这种成语虽然在必要时也可以逐字译出其含义,但在一般情况下则只概括地译个大意。

例21、这种态度,就是实事求是的态度。"实事"就是客 136 现存在着的一切事物, "是"就是客观事物的内部联系,即规律性, "求"就是我们去研究。(I),759)

To take such an attitude is to seek truth from facts. "Facts" are all the things that exist objectively, "truth" means their internal relations, that is, the laws governing them, and "to seek" means to study. (III, 22)

例22. 我们的方针要放在什么基点上? 放在自己力量的基点上,叫做自力更生。(Ⅳ,1030)

On what basis should our policy rest? It should rest on our own strength, and that means regeneration through one's own efforts. (IV, 20)

在需要阐明这些概念的时候,有必要象上面这样译。在其他情况下,"实事求是"往往译作 realistic,有时译作 objective;"自力更生"往往译作 rely on our own efforts,或译作 self-reliance.

例23. 中流砥柱(Ⅱ, 763) the mainstay (III, 28)

例24: 百折不挠, 再接再厉(V, 8)

through their dauntless and persistent efforts (V, 19) "中流砥柱"比喻坚强的、能起支柱作用的人或集体,英语 mainstay 也恰是这个意思。至于黄河激流中的砥柱山(在三门峡),人们在使用这个成语时已很少想到,翻译时也就不必提起了。

例25. 说些不三不四的话(II, 1011) to talk twaddle (III, 282)

例26. 不三不四的词句(Ⅱ, 808) nondescript expressions (III, 72)

例27, 不管三七二十一(V, 298) undiscriminating (V, 317)

这三个例子中的成语,无法分析其具体含义,只好笼统地 译其大意。

一九七三年英国出版了 David Hawkes 翻译的《红楼梦》第一卷。译本题为 The Story of the Stone(《石头记》)。译者在序言的最后一段谈到了他进行翻译的指导思想。他说:"My one abiding principle has been to translate everything—even puns."他之所以这样对待这本书,是因为"这部书是一位伟大的艺术家用自己的心血写成的"。译文非常细致,确实体现了译者的指导思想。译文对于成语是怎样处理的呢?就我看到的三十多个例子而言,主要有两个处理方法。一是直译。

例28, 坐山看虎斗(第十六回)

sit on the mountain-top and watch the tigers fight

例29. 借刀杀人(第十六回)

murder with a borrowed knife

例80. 指桑骂槐(第十六回)

cursing the oak-tree when they mean the ash

例31、远水解不得近渴(第十五回)

distant water is no cure for a present thirst

例32. 黛玉见他说的郑重,又且正言厉色,只当是真事,……(第十九回)

This was delivered with so straight a face and in so serious a tone of voice that Dai-yu was quite taken in.

例33、见面时彼此悲喜交集, …… (第十六回)

The joy of their reunion was, however, tempered with grief,

例34.他嘴里一时甜言蜜语,一时有天没日,疯疯傻傻, 只体信他。(第三回)

He can be all *honey-sweet words* one minute and ranting and raving like a lunatic the next. So don't believe anything he says.

这几个例子,译文都保留了原作的形象。只是例30译文把"桑"和"槐"换成了 the oak-tree 和 the ash, 大概是为了使外国读者感到熟悉,但"树"的形象仍保留下来了。例34是王夫人评论宝玉的一句话。"甜言蜜语"是说宝玉天真可爱,而不是说他虚伪狡诈,因此译者没有用英语中常见的 honeyed words, 而是用了 honey-sweet words, 既有"甜",又有"蜜"。此外,还有一些成语,如"银样镴枪头"、"推倒了油瓶儿不扶"等,也都是直译的。

另一个处理方法便是意译。

例35. 黛玉笑道:"你说你会'过目成诵',难道我就不能'一目十行'了!"(第二十三回)

"You needn't imagine you're the only one with a good memory," said Dai-yu haughtily. "I suppose I'm allowed to remember lines too if I like."

例36. 袭人道: "人家奉肠挂肚的等着, 你且高乐去!" (第二十六回)

"Well really!" said Aroma. "Here were we practically beside ourselves with anxiety, and all the time you were there enjoying yourself!"

例37. 晴雯也笑道:"你又护着他了!你们瞒神弄鬼的, 打量我都不知道呢!……"(第二十回)

"And don't you go sticking up for him!" said Skybright

gaily. "I know what you're up to, you two. You don't deceive me with your goings-on..."

例38. 唬的魂飞魄散(第十五回)

half dead with fright

例39. 宁荣两处上下内外人等, 莫不欢天喜地, 独有宝玉置若周闻。(第十六回)

There was one person who did not share the unbounded delight now general among the members of the Ning-guo and Rong-guo households — who behaved, indeed, almost as if he had not heard the news at all. This person was Bao-yu.

例40. 宝玉有一搭没一搭的说些鬼话,黛玉总不理。(第十九回)

He tried to arouse her interest with desultory chat—talking for the sake of talking. Dai-yu took no notice.

这几个例子都是只把成语的主要意思译出来,没有保留原来的形象。例40 "有一搭没一搭"表示没有话找话说,至于这个"搭"字在这里怎样解释就不清楚了。还有一些成语,例如"眉开眼笑"、"马仰人翻"、"干恩万谢"、"胆子比斗还大"、"吃不了兜着走"等,也都是意译的。

例41. 我平日和你说的,全当耳旁风,……(第八回)

Generally when I tell you to do anything it goes in one ear and out the other;

这个例子,译文用了一个英语成语 in one ear and out the other. 据 Brewer's Dictionary of Phrase, and Fable 说,这个成语已有五百多年的历史了。这个成语用在这里是很恰当的。《汉英词典》在"耳边风"条目下有个例子"当作耳边风",

也是译作 let sth. in at one ear and out the other.

最后谈一个加词的问题。翻译成语有时要加词。有两种情况,一是成语的译文本身需要加词。比如成语提到诸葛亮或鲁班,译文便需要略加数词介绍一下,否则外国读者就会莫名其妙。这种情况已在第六章中举例说明。此处要说的是第二种情况。汉语成语有时与句子的其余部分虽在意思上有联系,但没有具体的字把它们联系起来。译文如果结合得好,也可以不加词(如下面例42)。有时则需要适当地加一些词,如 like, as the saying goes, 等等。

例42、我们有在不同革命时期经过考验的这样一套干部,就可以"任凭风浪起,稳坐钓鱼船"。(V,327)

With such cadres as ours who have been tested in different periods of the revolution, we are able to "sit tight in the fishing boat despite the rising wind and waves". (V, 347)

例43. 如果我们连党八股也打倒了,那就算对于主观主义和宗派主义最后地"将一军",弄得这两个怪物原形毕露,"老鼠过街,人人喊打",这两个怪物也就容易消灭了。 (■,787)

If we destroy that too, we shall "checkmate subjectivism and sectarianism and make both these monsters show themselves in their true colours, and then we shall easily be able to annihilate them, like "rats running across the street with everyone yelling: Kill them!" (III, 53)

例44. 只为工业积累,农业本身积累得太少或者没有积累,竭泽而渔,对于工业的发展反而不利。(V,361)

If agriculture accumulated only for industry and very little or none for itself, that would mean "draining the pond

to get all the fish" and would only harm the development of industry. (V, 382)

例45、种种困难,遇到共产党人,它们就只好退却,真是"高山也要低头,河水也要让路"。(V,142)

Every kind of difficulty has to give way before Communists, just as in the saying, "Mountains bow their heads and rivers make way." (V, 157)

练 习 17

怎样翻译下列各例中的成语?

- 1.惩前毖后,治病救人
- 2.新老干部应该是彼此尊重,互相学习,取长补短,以便 团结一致,进行共同的事业,而防止宗派主义的倾向。
 - 3.他们愿意为蒸蒸日上的社会主义祖国服务。
 - 4. 灵丹妙药
 - 5.混水摸鱼
 - 6、把我们的毛病讲得一针见血
 - 7.这完全是张冠李戴。
 - 8.档案中并无片纸只字提及此事。

18 能不能反译

对同一事物,或在同一场合,汉语和英语的表达方式可以完全不同。大家都爱看"反特影片",但在英语里,"反"字没有了,叫做 spy film. 我们见到远道而来的朋友,往往要说"路上辛苦了。"这句话,《汉英词典》给了两个译文。第一个是 You must have had a tiring journey. 这是直译,是为了说明这句话的本意。其实地道的英语是不这样说的。在这种场合,英语要说 Did you have a good trip? 这也就是词典给的第二个译文。可见中国人问候别人时说"路上辛苦",而外国人则问"旅途是否愉快"。

"这"在英语里是 this, "那"在英语里是 that. 但有时"这"恰恰要译成 that。请看:

例1. 错误犯得太多了,一定要反过来。这是马克思主义。(《毛泽东选集》第五卷,第310页,简称 V,310。下同)

When too many mistakes are made, there is bound to be a turn-about. That is Marxism. (V, 329)

例2. 中国将变为一个强大的社会主义工业国。中国应当这样。(V,312)

It will have become a powerful industrial socialist country. And that is as it should be. (V, 330)

这是因为英语的习惯一般是用 this 指下面要说的话,用 that 指上面已说的话,而汉语则无论是指已说的话还是指未说的话都用"这"。

以上几个例子,大概可以说是反映了使用汉语的人和使用 英语的人思路不一致的地方。在大多数情况下,思路还是一致 的,但表达方式却可以截然相反。

例3、 油漆未干

Wet Paint

刚刷的油漆,不小心会蹭一身,这一点认识应该说是共同的。但汉语说"未干",英语说 wet. 这大概是两种语言长期各自形成的习惯说法。如果汉语说"油漆湿",英语说 Paint Not Dry 就不合乎习惯,而感到很别扭了。

例4. 无期徒刑

life sentence; life imprisonment

两种语言说的是一件事,角度却不同。

拍摄一部电影,或出版一本书,总要在前言里对协助工作的人表示感谢。在这种场合,汉语一般是从正面提,而英语则往往说 not... without. 一九七八年出版的 The Memoirs of Richard Nixon, 序言中有这样一句话。

This book could *not* have been written or published without the help of dozens of people, and I am deeply grateful to all of them.

一九七三年出版的 Charles E. Bohlen 所著 Witness to History, 序言是这样结束的。

Finally, I find it difficult to express my deep gratitude to Robert H. Phelps, news editor of the Washington Bureau of The New York Times, without whose invaluable assistance and constant help this book would never have been written.

还有一本书的前言写道:

The book would *not* have been published without the substantial help received from:....

如果把这句话译成中文,恐怕要说,"本书得以出版,还由于得到了下列各位的大力协助,他们是……"若译为"如果没有下列友人的大力帮助,本书是无法出版的,他们是……"就不大合乎汉语的习惯了。

在翻译的过程中,有时由于种种原因,若照原文的用词来 译,不好处理,这时就不妨从相反的角度来处理了。

例5. ……不应当把马克思主义的理论当成死的教条。 (1,773)

... should not regard Marxist theory as *lifeless* dogma. (III, 38)

例6. 常常听到一些同志在不能勇敢接受工作任务时说出来的一句话。没有把握。(1,266)

"I am not sure I can handle it." We often hear this remark when a comrade *hesitates* to accept an assignment. (I, 302)

"死的"通常译作 dead, 但此处和 dogma 连用则不是很好的搭配。"勇敢"在这里若译作 bravely, courageously, boldly都不合适, hesitate 一词却十分得体。

例7. 十月革命推翻了资产阶级,这在世界上是个新鲜事情。(V, 294)

The October Revolution overthrew the bourgeoisie, an event without precedent in world history. (V, 313)

例8. 优待抗日军人家属,使前线官兵安心作战,…… (Ⅱ,965)

Give preferential treatment to the families of the sol-

diers fighting in the anti-Japanese war, so that the officers and men at the front are *free from domestic worries*;.... (III, 237)

例9. 一般来说,新干部没有这种包袱,比较自由。 (V,422)

Generally speaking, new cadres are not so burdened, are less encumbered. (V, 439)

这三个例子,译文从反而说出了"新鲜"、"安心"、"自由"的具体内容,这就比较清楚,使读者不致于理解到别的方面去。最后一句若译为 relatively free,则不知究竟是什么意思了。

例10.解放区的巩固工作仍应注意。(页,1018)

Meanwhile, the consolidation of the Liberated Areas must not be neglected. (III, 289)

例11. 我们讨论中国文化问题,不能忘记这个基本观点。 (I,625)

These basic concepts must be kept in mind in our discussion of China's cultural problems. (II, 341)

例12. 但是,中央各部门的发言中间,有一部分内容较· 差,分析和批判不够;……(V, 145)

But some of the speeches delivered on behalf of the central departments were rather poor in content and *left something to be desired* in the way of analysis and criticism. (V, 160)

例13. 生与死不能转化,请问生物从何而来? (V, 348) If life and death cannot be transformed into each other, then please tell me where living things come from. (V, 368) 146

例14. 我们的同志在困难的时候,要看到成绩,要看到光明,要提高我们的勇气。(I,906)

In times of difficulty we must not lose sight of our achievements, must see the bright future and must pluck up our courage. (III, 177-178)

例15、"物极必反",错误成了堆,光明就会到来。 (V,310)

"Things turn into their opposites when they reach the extreme"; when mistakes pile up, light is not far off. (V, 329)

这几个例子用反译,大概是为了使译文流畅。例14用 must not lose sight of,可以避免重复must see. 例15是一篇文章的结尾。在这种场合,英语往往是用 not far off.

例16. ……必欲置边区人民和八路军后方留守机关于死地 而后快。(I,874)

...he will not be happy with anything less than the destruction of the people of the Border Region as well as the rear headquarters of the Eighth Route Army. (III, 143)

例17. 否则,敌人崩溃之日,民族纪律是不会宽容他们的。(I,990)

Otherwise the nation will certainly call them to account the day the enemy collapses. (III, 260)

例18. 我们的战士和干部机智, 勇敢, 不怕死。(V,101) Our soldiers and cadres are resourceful and brave and dare to look death in the face. (V, 115)

例19. 我坚决地回答。赞成统一战线,反对关门主义。 (1,141) I answer without the slightest hesitation — the united front and not closed-doorism. (I, 164-165)

这几句,汉语的口气都非常强。例16译文用两个否定,例 17译文不用否定语气而用肯定语气,都是符合原文的分寸的。 例18和例19需要多用几个字显得才有分量,如果译作 answer firmly 和 not afraid of death,就不够有力了。

反译的现象, 英译汉时也常常会遇到。

M20. However, that those measures have had some effect would seem to be a modest enough claim.

然而, 那些措施取得了一定的效果, 这种说法不能算是言 过其实吧。

6921. I hope that in future representatives will try hard to keep their statements within the framework of explanation of vote.

我希望下面发言的代表将努力使自己的发言不超出对投票 进行解释的范围。

M22. And whilst speaking of incorrect history, I might also mention the incorrect statement of He may wish to have his historical sources checked.

另外,读到史料有误,我还可以提一下, ……的发言是不 精确的。最好请他查对一下他的史料的来源。

最后一句如果译为"也许他愿意检查一下他的史料的来源",则不符合汉语的说法,意思也不清楚。

练 习 18

请将下列句子和词组译成英语:

1. 在今天看来,这个草案是比较完全的,这是采纳了合 148

理的意见的结果。

- 2. 我们的错误没有扩大化,是由于……
- 3. 不辜负全国人民和世界人民对我们的希望。
- 4. 这是干真万确的真理。

19 书面语,还是口语

不同的场合需要不同的文体。书面的文件,句子就比较谨严,用词也比较庄重。一般的讲话,句子就比较松散,用词也可以比较活泼。一篇东西往往也不止用一种文体。一篇很正式的报告里,也可以穿插一些非常口语化的词句。这都要看具体情况而定。翻译的时候,遭词造句,当然也要注意各种不同的文体。

例1. 中央于二月中旬召开有各中央局负责同志参加的政治局会议,讨论了各项重要问题,兹特决议要点通报如下。 (《毛泽东选集》第五卷,第34页,简称V,34。下局)

The Political Bureau convened a meeting in mid-February at which responsible comrades from the bureaus of the Central Committee were present and various important questions were discussed. We herewith notify you of the main points of the resolution. (V, 45)

例2. 我们的总目标,是为建设一个伟大的社会主义国家而奋斗。我们是一个六亿人口的大国,要实现社会主义工业化,要实现农业的社会主义化、机械化,要建成一个伟大的社会主义国家,究竟需要多少时间?现在不讲死,大概是三个五年计划,即十五年左右,可以打下一个基础。到那时,是不是就很伟大了呢?不一定。我看,我们要建成一个伟大的社会主义国家,大概经过五十年即十个五年计划,就差不多了,就象个样子了,就同现在大不一样了。现在我们能造什么?能造桌子

椅子,能造茶碗茶壶,能种粮食,还能磨成面粉,还能造纸,但是,一辆汽车、一架飞机、一辆坦克、一辆拖拉机都不能造。牛皮不要吹得太大,尾巴不要翘起来。当然,我不是讲,能造一辆,尾巴就可以翘一点,能造十辆,尾巴就可以翘得高一点,随着辆数的增加,尾巴就翘得更高一些。那是不行的。就是到五十年后象个样子了,也要和现在一样谦虚。如果到那时候骄傲了,看人家不起了,那就不好。一百年也不要骄傲。永远也不要翘尾巴。(٧,130-131)

Our general objective is to strive to build a great socialist country. Ours is a big country of 600 million people. How long will it really take to accomplish socialist industrialization and the socialist transformation and mechanization of agriculture and make China a great socialist country? We won't set a rigid time-limit now. It will probably take a period of three five-year plans, or fifteen years, to lay the foundation. Will China then become a great country? Not necessarily. I think for us to build a great socialist country, about fifty years, or ten five-year plans, will probably be enough. By then China will be in good shape and quite different from what it is now. What can we make at present? We can make tables and chairs, teacups and teapots, we can grow grain and grind it into flour, and we can make paper. But we can't make a single motor car, plane, tank or tractor. So we mustn't brag and be cocky. Of course I don't mean we can become cocky when we turn out our first car, more cocky when we make ten cars, and still more cocky when we make more and more cars. That won't do. Even after fifty

years, when our country is in good shape, we should remain as modest as we are now. If by then we should become conceited and look down on others, it would be bad. We mustn't be conceited even a hundred years from now. We must never be cocky. (V, 145-146)

这两段话的文体是不同的。例 1 摘 自毛主席为中共中央起草的党内通报。因为是书面语,句子结构谨严,用词也比较文。译文用了 convene, herewith, notify 等词,也是比较文的。所以译文是符合原义的文体的。例2摘自一篇 讲话,一开始稍文一些,后来就很口语化了。"吹牛皮","翘尾巴"都是在口语里常用的词。译文还用了大量的助动词的缩略形式。won't, don't, mustn't, can't. "Not necessarily", "That won't do" 也都是常在对话中出现的。"cocky"一词,在 Oxford Advanced Leaner's Dictionary 和 Webster's New World Dictionary 都标明是 colloq. (口语体)

例3. (五)不打人骂人; (六)不损坏庄稼; (七)不 调戏妇女; (八)不虐待俘虏。(N,1137)

- (5) Don't hit or swear at people.
- (6) Don't damage crops.
- (7) Don't take liberties with women.
- (8) Don't ill-treat captives. (IV, 155)

这是三人纪律八项注意的最后四条。三大纪律八项注意是解放军的纪律,是作为命令公布实行的,因此文字要庄重。译文用口语中常见的 Don't 是不合乎文体的。就是因为这个原因,后来在《毛泽东军事文选》英译本出版的时候,就把这几条改为:

(5) Do not hit or swear at people.

- (6) Do not damage crops.
 - (7) Do not take liberties with women.
 - (8) Do not ill-treat captives.

例4. 国务院全面地分析了我国当前的经济情况,确定要在前两年经济恢复和发展取得巨大成就的基础上,从今年起,用三年时间,进行国民经济的调整、改革、整顿、提高,逐步把国民经济纳入持久的按比例的高速度发展的轨道。(五届人大二次会议文件)

The State Council has made an overall analysis of our current economic situation and has decided that, on the basis of the solid achievements in economic recovery and growth during the past two years, a period of three years, beginning from 1979, should be devoted to readjusting, restructuring, consolidating and improving the national economy so as to put it, step by step, on to the path of sustained, proportionate and high-speed development.

这句话引自五届人大二次会议文件。译文在句子结构和用词方面是适宜的。但起初这句话的中间部分译作 with the solid achievements chalked up during the past two years in the way of economic recovery and growth. "chalk up"这个短语,在一九七五年出版的 Oxford Dictionary of Current Idiomatic Enghish, Volume 1 和同年出版的 A Dictionary of American Idioms 里,都注为 informal. 这个短语在一般新闻报导里用是可以的,但在上面所说的这个场合就不合适了。

例5. "信八字望走好运,信风水望坟山贯气。今年几个月光景,土豪劣绅贪官污吏一齐倒台了。难道这几个月以前土豪劣绅贪官污吏还大家走好运,大家坟山都贯气,这几个月忽

然大家走坏运,坟山也一齐不贯气了么?……神明么?那是很可,敬的。但是不要农民会,只要关圣帝君、观音大士,能够打倒土豪劣绅么?那些帝君、大士们也可怜,敬了几百年,一个土豪劣绅不曾替你们打倒!现在你们想减租,我请问你们有什么法子,信神呀,还是信农民会?"(1,33-34)

- 1) "One who believes in the Eight Charaters hopes for good luck; one who believes in geomancy hopes for the beneficial influence of the burial ground. This year the local bullies, bad gentry and corrupt officials all collapsed within a few months. Is it possible that till a few months ago they were all in good luck and all under the beneficial influence of their burial grounds, while in the last few months they have all of a sudden been in bad luck and their burial grounds all ceased to exert any beneficial influence on them?... The Gods? They may quite deserve our worship. But if we had no peasant association but only the Emperor Kuan and the Goddess of Mercy, could we have knocked down the local bullies and bad gentry? The gods and goddesses are indeed pitiful; worshipped for hundreds of years, they have not knocked down for you a single local bully or a single one of the bad gentry! Now you want to have your rent reduced. I would like to ask: How will you go about it? Believe in the gods, or believe in the peasant association?" (1954 ed.)
- 2) If you believe in the Eight Characters, you hope for good luck; if you believe in geomancy, you hope to benefit from the location of your ancestral graves. This year within

the space of a few months the local tyrants, evil gentry and corrupt officials have all toppled from their pedestals. Is it possible that until a few months ago they all had good luck and enjoyed the benefit of well-sited ancestral graves, while suddenly in the last few months their luck has turned and their ancestral graves have ceased to exert a beneficial influence?... The gods? Worship them by all means. But if you had only the Lord Kuan and the Goddess of Mercy and no peasant association, could you have overthrown the local tyrants and evil gentry? The gods and goddesses are indeed miserable objects. You have worshipped them for centuries, and they have not overthrown a single one of the local tyrants or evil gentry for you! Now you want to have your rent reduced. Let me ask, how will you go about it? Will you believe in the gods or in the peasant association?" (I, 46-47)

这是毛主席在向农民作宣传的时候所说的一段话,非常生动。这里有两个译文,第一个是一九五四年发表的译文,第二个是一九六四年发表的译文。比较一下就可看出二者在文体上的不同。一九五四年的译文用了"One who...hopes for...", "collapsed", "in good luck", "They may quite deserve our worship", "But if we... could we...", "I would like to ask..."等词语,因此整个译文是比较文的。一九六四年的译文则用了"If you...you hope for...", "toppled", "had good luck", "Worship them by all means", "But if you... could you...", "Let me ask...". 这些词语都是口语里常用的,用来翻译这段直接对农民讲的话是很恰当的。

从以上的例子来看,翻译时不能孤立地考虑如何处理一个

词、一句话, 而需要考虑整段话乃至整篇文章的文体。该文则 文, 该白则白, 译文就比较理想了。

练 习 19

试将下面两段话译成英语:

- 1. 本军三大纪律八项注意,实行多年,其内容各地各军略有出入。现在统一规定,重行颁布。望即以此为准,深入教育,严格执行。
- 2. 锦州那个地方出苹果,辽西战役的时候,正是秋天,老百姓家里很多苹果,我们战士一个都不去拿。我看了那个消息很感动。……在必要的时候,在座的同志们要住棚子。在过草地的时候,没有棚子都可以住,现在有棚子为什么不可以住?

20 怎样使用—和""

在翻译过程中,有时汉语使用破折号,而英译文则不用。 有时汉语没有使用破折号,而译文却用了。也有时汉语只用一 个,而译文用两个。从《毛泽东选集》的英译本来看,破折号用 得比原文多得多。那么,译文在哪些地方加了破折号呢?

例1. 采取这种方法时所用的标准,主要是我们现时的根本 大法即共同纲领。(《毛泽东选集》第五卷,第28页,简称 V, 28。下同)

The main criterion in the application of this method is our present fundamental law—the Common Programme. (V, 39)

例2. 在我们的面前有两类社会矛盾,这就是敌我之间的矛盾和人民内部的矛盾。(V, 364)

We are confronted with two types of social contradictions — those between ourselves and the enemy and those among the people. (V, 384)

例3. 在军队打了一个胜仗之后,有的同志刚刚同那些左右前后的人谈得津津有味的时候,尾巴翘得那么高的时候,你就给他提出打第二仗的新任务。(Y, 215)

When an army unit won a battle and some comrades started talking about it with gusto to people around them and got too cocky, you set them a new task — to fight another battle. (V, 231)

例4. 决议上说,对私人资本主义经济,要从活动范围、税收政策、市场价格、劳动条件等方面加以限制,不能任其泛滥。(V,92)

The resolution it adopted says that the private capitalist economy must not be allowed to expand uncurbed but should be restricted from several directions—in the scope of its operations, by tax policy and by market prices and working conditions. (V, 105-106)

- 例5. 是光明面占优势,还是黑暗面占优势呢? (V, 152) Which is predominant — the bright side or the dark? (V, 167-168)
- 例6. 虽然如此,他们中间的积极性的程度,由于种种原因,仍然是不同的,有些人很积极,有些人暂时还不大积极,有些人还要看一看。(V, 178)

Nevertheless, for one reason or another, their enthusiasm varies in degree — some are very keen, some are not so keen for the time being, and others prefer to wait and see. (V, 193)

这几个例子,破折号后面的话比较具体,用来说明前面的话。这是最常见的一种情况。

有时,这种说明性的话不在句末,而在句中。

例7. 祝我们全体——人民政府的工作人员,人民志愿军和人民解放军的指挥员、战斗员,各民主党派,各人民团体,各少数民族和全国人民,在各个工作战线上的胜利! (V,60)

May all of us — the cadres of the People's Government, the commanders and fighters of the People's Volunteers and the People's Liberation Army, the democratic parties, the people's organizations, the minority nationalities and the people of the entire country — win victory on every front of our work! (V, 72)

例8. 他们学得了社会发展史——历史唯物论,但是一遇 到具体的历史事件,……(V,47)

They have studied the history of social development—historical materialism—but when it comes to specific historical events, (V, 58)

例9. 所以,最好是三年五年再种一次牛痘,就是开我们这种会。(7,149)

Therefore it is better to have another vaccination — in our case another meeting of the present kind — after a lapse of three or five years. (V, 164)

在例7和例8中,汉语只用一个破折号,在例9中,汉语没有用破折号,而译文却用两个,前后各一个,等于是把这一部分从句子里分离出来,使前后的话连上。

例10. 国家的统一,人民的团结,国内各民族的团结,这是我们的事业必定要胜利的基本保证。(V, 363)

The unification of our country, the unity of our people and the unity of our various nationalities — these are the basic guarantees for the sure triumph of our cause. (V, 384)

例11,中国必须建立强大的国防军,必须建立强大的经济力量,这是两件大事。(V,30—31)

China must build a powerful national defence force and a powerful economy — two tasks of major importance. (V, 41)

例12. 总之,一个合逻辑,一个合文法,一个较好的修辞,

这三点请你们在写文章的时候注意。(V, 217)

In short, to be logical, to be grammatical and to have a better command of rhetoric — these are the three points I would like you to bear in mind when you write. (V, 233)

例13、全面规划,加强领导,这就是我们的方针。(V,191)

Comprehensive planning and more effective leadership—that is our policy. (V, 206)

这几个例子,破折号前面的话比较具体,后面的话比较概括,用来总结前面的话。还请注意,这种概括性的话,原文大都离不开一个"这"字,句子有力。译文用破折号,使得后面的话比较突出,保持了原文的力量。

最后一种情况是: 句子不长,先提起一件事,后面是表态性的话,或是一句评论,译成英语时,中间用破折号隔开。

例14. 要有控制数字,摊派下去。摊派而不强迫,不是命令主义。(V,116)

There should be control figures and an allotment of quotas. Allotment without compulsion — this is not commandism. (V, 131)

例15. "积极领导,稳步发展",这句话很好。(V, 122)

"Active leadership and steady development" — this is well put. (V, 138)

例16. 百花齐放, 我看还是要放。(V, 338)

Let a hundred flowers blossom — I think we should go on doing that. (V, 359)

至于引号,它在汉语和英语中的用法,基本上是一样的。 但若拿英译文与中文原文来比较,会发现译文里引号用得多。 多在哪里?大概有以下三种情况。

第一种情况是,下面一句话里引用了上面一句话的词语, 加以发挥。

例17. 党在过渡时期的总任务,是要经过三个五年计划,基本上完成社会主义工业化和对农业、手工业、资本主义工商业的社会主义改造。……基本上完成,不等于全部完成。(V,87)

The Party's general task for the transition period is basically to accomplish socialist industrialization and the socialist transformation of agriculture, handicrafts and capitalist industry and commerce in the course of three five-year plans . . . "Basically accomplished" does not mean "completely accomplished". (V, 99)

例18. ……交清历史, 坦白其隐藏的问题。这种坦白运动必须……(V, 40)

... give a clear account of their history and make a clean breast of what they have hitherto kept to themselves. This campaign to "clear oneself" must (V, 52)

第二种情况是,汉语用了成语、典故。中国人熟悉,可以不加引号,知道是个比喻。译文如不加引号,外国读者就会感到莫名其妙了。

例19. 要大胆指导运动,不要前怕龙,后怕虎。(V,169)

We must guide the movement boldly and must not "fear dragons ahead and tigers behind". (V, 185)

例20、我们主张和风细雨, …… (V, 328)

We are in favour of the method of the "gentle breeze and mild rain", (V, 348)

例21. 帝国主义国家和我们之间,是你中有我,我中有你。 (V,342)

As for the relations between the imperialist countries and ourselves, "they are among us and we are among them". (V, 362)

第三种情况是: 半句是作者的话, 半句是文中提到的某人的话。汉语可以不加引号, 译成英语则不能不加。

例22. 我们的古人林黛玉讲,不是东风压倒西风,就是西风压倒东风。(V,321)

Lin Tai-yu, a character in a classical Chinese novel, said: "Either the east wind prevails over the west wind, or the west wind prevails over the east wind." (V, 340)

例23. 我认为讲明这一点是有必要的,这样可以使人们有信心,不致徬徨顾虑,不知道什么时候你们不要我了,我虽想为人民效力也没有机会了。不,不会这样的,……(V,27)

I think it is necessary to make this point clear so that people will have confidence and stop worrying: "Don't know when I'll no longer be wanted and be given the chance to serve the people even if I wish to." No, that won't happen. (V, 39)

例24. 让青年人看到我们确实是有经验的。"这些前辈,确是有点经验,不要看轻他们,你看他们那么谦虚。"(V,151)

Leave it to the young people to realize that we are really experienced: "These veterans do have some experience.

We should not underrate them. Look, how modest they are!" (V, 166-167)

例25. 所以不要逞英雄。你看,你们不是惹了一点骚吗, 而我可干净啦! (V, 149)

So don't play the braggart and say, "Look, haven't you got smirched? But see how clean I am!" (V, 164)

例26. 过去有些外国同志怀疑: 究竟你们搞些什么事情? (V, 293)

In the past, some foreign comrades had doubts about what we were actually doing. (V, 312)

最后三个例子,汉语都是一个类型。不同的是,例24原文有引号,例25和例26原文没有引号。可见在汉语里,在这种情况下,加不加引号都可以。但译成英语,如果保留原来直接引语的口气,就要加引号。如果不加,就只有象最后一个例子那样,把直接引语变为间接引语了。

练 习 20

在翻译下列句子和词组时怎样使用引号和破折号?

- 1. 马克思在实际斗争中进行了详细的调查研究, 概括了各种东西, 得到的结论又拿到实际斗争中去加以证明, 这样的工作就叫做理论工作。
- 2.许多人对于敌我之间的和人民内部的这两类性质不同的 矛盾分辨不清,容易混淆在一起。
 - 3.解放思想、开动机器、实事求是、团结一致向前看的方针
 - 4.我们说,你没有挑过水,所以没有摘桃子的权利。
- 5. 有些同志总是在那里吹,我们可帮助了你们,就没有看 到没有少数民族是不行的。

练习答案

1

- 1. They made great efforts to learn and study all sorts of things, contemporary and *past*, and taught other people to do likewise.
 - 2. In the past, this country made war on us many times.
- 3. A very wide rift has long existed between the native inhabitants and the settlers; their *traditional* feuds are deep-seated and they sometimes erupt in violent clashes.
 - 4. There is much that is unfair in this world.

- 1. The four modernizations are something entirely new.
- 2. Lacking an analytical approach, many of our comrades do not want to go deeply into complex matters, to analyse and study them over and over again, but like to draw simple conclusions which are either absolutely affirmative or absolutely negative.
- 3. It is the peasants who are the chief *concern* of China's cultural movement at the present stage.
- 4. They have raised their rough, work-soiled hands and laid them on the gentry.
- 5. In fact we have already pulled through some of our recent difficulties and will soon overcome others.

- 1. At present, the four modernizations constitute the pivot of our political life.
- 2. Historical experience and today's realities both show that . . .
- 3. We have defeated the successive attempts of foreign forces of aggression to isolate and blockade China, frustrated their interference in our internal affairs and their provocations against us, and consolidated our independence.
- 4. For members of the Communist Party, this means keeping to the stand of the Party, keeping to Party spirit and Party policy.... Many of our comrades have frequently departed from the correct stand.
- 5. These battalions of ours are wholly dedicated to the liberation of the people and work *entirely* in the people's interests.
 - 6. the aggressors and their servile lackeys

- 1. Ours is still a very poor country.
- 2. We still have many failings. We are not afraid to admit them and are determined to get rid of them.
- 3. Achievements have a dual character and so have mistakes.
- 4. The army cadres must help the local cadres, and vice versa.

- 5. Ours is a just cause. A just cause is invincible before any enemy.
- 6. We firmly believe that socialism has a great future, we firmly believe that the hundreds of millions of Chinese people have a great future.

5

- small and medium-sized countries
- 2. The many articles we've come across say little or nothing on this score.
 - 3. prevent and combat revisionism
- 4. Of course, our socialist system early showed vitality and promise. But it was still immature and imperfect. It was as yet unprepared to avert or resist such grave attack as the ten years of sabotage by Lin Biao and the gang of four.

- 1. China is a socialist country. It belongs to the third world and has experience and tasks in common with the *other* third world countries.
- 2. This will help resolve the contradictions between the state and the factory director on the one hand and the masses of workers on the other.
- 3. This should be acknowledged. It has been borne out in every political movement.
- 4. There was a case recently at Machiaho, Hsiangtan

County, where a crowd of fifteen thousand peasants went to the houses of six of the evil gentry and demonstrated; the whole affair lasted four days! during which more than 130 pigs were killed and eaten.

- 5. We can say that production in the Border Region has been set on the right path.
- 6. Since they are different in nature, the contradictions between ourselves and the enemy and the contradictions among the people must be resolved by different methods.

7

- 1. Construction is going ahead vigorously on all fronts.
- 2. Once the proletariat and the other working people have seized state power and established their political rule, economic construction must be given top priority.
- 3. In the present period and for a considerably long time to come systematic and planned socialist modernization will be our main task.
 - 4. Here I wish to speak briefly on practising economy.
 - 5. dare to combat indiscipline and inefficiency
- 6. Disturbances thus have a dual character. Every disturbance can be regarded in this way.

8

1. Our revolutionary cause, whether in the factories, on the farms, in the army units or in the schools, cannot

succeed without the young people.

- 2. Now we must make sure that everybody, including workers, peasants, soldiers students and cadres, can keep fit.
- 3. The air in the atmosphere, the forests on the earth and the riches under the soil are all important factors needed for the building of socialism.
- 4. Fight no battle unprepared, fight no battle you are not sure of winning. This was the celebrated slogan of our Party during the revolutionary wars.

- 1. The victorious Chinese revolution was the most important event in the history of the international proletarian revolutionary movement since the Russian October Revolution and the most important event in world politics since World War II.
 - 2. We have won great victories in all fields of work.
- 3. Democracy in its original sense means rule by the majority.
- 4. We have always maintained a programme of education in Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong Thought among the whole people and have thus enormously enhanced their political consciousness.
- 5. As the Republican leader of the House of Representatives, Mr. Ford visited China before in June 1972 with Mrs.

Ford, so they are already known to the Chinese people.

- 6. God was noved by this, and he sent down two angels, who carried the mountains away no their backs.
- 7. The *co-operatives* are now the most important form of mass organization in the economic field.

10

- 1. We are gathered here today in celebration of the 30th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China.
- 2. Standing firm and proud among the nations of the world, our great motherland has become an ever stronger force which nobody can ignore.
- 3. Efforts must be made to increase production, practise economy, combat waste, raise efficiency, introduce technical innovations, continually tap production potential and open up new fields of production to increase social wealth.
- 4. Flexibility does not mean recklessness; recklessness must be rejected.
- 5. This is no easy matter, but the policy is set and must be put into effect.

- 1. to make further advances on the lively political situation of stability and unity
- 2. to unfold mass movements for socialist labour emulation and for the raising of proposals for work improvement

- 3. the great and glorious thirty years
- 4. the revolution against imperialism, feudalism and bureaucrat-capitalism waged by the broad masses of the people under the leadership of the proletariat

12

- 1. We must continue to resolve all such contradictions in the light of our specific conditions.
- 2. You have overcome a host of difficulties and hardships and demonstrated immense courage, wisdom and enthusiasm in the struggle to wipe out the enemy and in the struggle to restore and increase industrial and agricultural production.
- 3. To teach the masses, newspaper workers should first of all learn from the masses.
- 4. This law has come to be understood by a growing number of people in our country.

- 1. The facts just cited make it absolutely necessary that we concentrate our efforts within these three years on readjusting, restructuring, consolidating and improving our economy.
- 2. We are very glad that Mr. Heath, an outstanding British statesman, has come to China for a friendly visit at the invitation of the Chinese Government.

- 3. The lesson derived from this is that we can scorn difficulties.
- 4. In the twenty-four years of its existence since its birth in 1921 the Communist Party of China has gone through three historical periods of heroic struggle—the Northern Expedition, the Agrarian Revolutionary War and the War of Resistance Against Japan—and has accumulated a wealth of experience.

- 1. The century and more of enslavement of the Chinese people by colonialism and imperialism had come to an end. The Chinese people had stood up.
- 2. To modernize agriculture, industry, national defence and science and technology in a big country like ours with over 900 million people is a highly complex and difficult task. Further strengthening of the groundwork is an important precondition for smooth development later.
- 3. Today, two big mountains lie like a dead weight on the Chinese people. One is imperialism, the other is feudalism.
- 4. Take the military commanders, for instance. Though they make no public statements they have to talk to the soldiers and have dealings with the people. What is this if not propaganda?
 - 5. It often happens that objectively the masses need a

certain change, but subjectively they are not yet conscious of the need, not yet willing or determined to make the change. In such cases, we should wait patiently. We should not make the change until, through our work, most of the masses have become conscious of the need and are willing and determined to carry it out. Otherwise we shall isolate ourselves from the masses.

- 6. The co-operatives are now in the process of gradual consolidation. There are certain contradictions that remain to be resolved, such as those between the state and the co-operatives and those in and between the co-operatives themselves.
- 7. All citizens who have reached the age of eighteen have the right to vote and to stand for election, with the exception of persons deprived of these rights by law.

- 1. This is a historic turning point.
- 2. This is a tremendous event.
- 3. The heart of the matter here is that
- 4. In Nature as in society, all new-born forces are intrinsically invincible.
- 5. Never in the past decade have we witnessed such a flourishing and gratifying situation on the economic front as a whole.

- 1. The mass line, however, is still not being thoroughly carried out in the work of some comrades; they still rely solely on a handful of people working coolly and quietly by themselves.
- 2. It should be admitted, *however*, that our country has a long feudal tradition and is relatively backward economically and culturally
- 3. Today is the twentieth anniversary of the May 4th Movement, and the youth of Yenan are all gathered here for this commemoration meeting. I shall therefore take the occasion to speak on some questions concerning the orientation of the youth movement in China.
- 4. We must *therefore* give serious attention to the work of checking up on the co-operatives.

- 1. "learn from past mistakes to avoid future ones" and "cure the sickness to save the patient"
- 2. Cadres, new and old, should respect each other, learn from each other and overcome their own shortcomings by learning from each other's strong points, so as to unite as one in the common cause and guard against sectarian tendencies.
- 3. They are willing to serve their flourishing socialist motherland.